

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

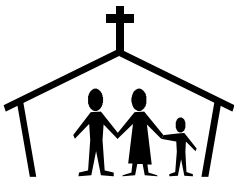
“Concordia is the Church where the love of Christ is shared through our hearts, our hands, and our voices.”

TWENTIETH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

Saturday, October 10, 2026 at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary
(NO Holy Communion)

Online Worship posted to website Saturday evening
Sunday, October 11, 2026

8:00 am and 11:00 am Services in the Sanctuary
(NO Holy Communion)



AS WE GATHER

Today we come to the Seventh and Eighth Commandments. "You shall not steal." We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income. "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor." We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

In the Large Catechism, Luther teaches that stealing is far bigger than burglary. It includes every way we take advantage of our neighbor at work, in business, or at home. And he teaches that a person's good name is a treasure too, one our tongues can steal as surely as our hands.

We live in a world of easy shortcuts and quicker gossip. We cut corners on the job and forward a rumor before we've checked whether it's true. Our hands and our tongues both need forgiving.

Christ came for exactly that. He was condemned by false witnesses and crucified between two thieves, and to one of them He promised paradise. Like Zacchaeus, we are sought and saved before we ever make anything right. And grace turns takers into givers and gossips into defenders.

As we prepare for worship, pray that God would make our hands honest and generous and our tongues truthful and kind. Pray for anyone whose name has been damaged by others, and for the humility to go to a brother privately rather than speak about him publicly.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS (p. 18-19)

(Please stand as able and face the Cross)

OPENING / PROCESSIONAL HYMN #611 (vs. 1-5)

"Chief of Sinners, Though I Be"



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

+ DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING ONE +
(Hymnal, p. 151)

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19b)

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
(1 John 1:8-9)

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

L: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Merciful Father, 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.

L: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

ALL: Amen.

(Please remain standing as able)

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”)

PSALMODY (Psalm 15)

L: ¹O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

People: ²He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart;

L: ³who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend;

People: ⁴in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD;

L: who swears to his own hurt and does not change; ⁵who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent.

People: He who does these things shall never be moved.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE Words and Music by Peter Schultes
 “They’ll Know we Are Christians by Our Love”

We are one in the Spirit, we are one the Lord;
 We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
 And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
 And they’ll know we are Christians by our love,
 By our love, yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
 We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
 And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land.
 And they’ll know we are Christians by our love,
 By our love, yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
 We will work with each other, we will work side by side.
 And we’ll guard each man’s dignity and save each man’s pride.
 And they’ll know we are Christians by our love,
 By our love, yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
 And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
 And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.
 And they’ll know we are Christians by our love,
 By our love, yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

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

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

People: And also with you.

L: Let us pray together.

ALL: Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same 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 +

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 20:1–16
(The 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.

¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵“You shall not steal.

¹⁶“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

(After the reading...)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING Ephesians 4:25–32

(Unity in the Body of Christ)

Reader: The Second Reading is from Ephesians, Chapter Four.

²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

(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)

VERSE #912 (v. 1)

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”





HOLY GOSPEL Luke 19:1-10

(Jesus and Zacchaeus)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 19th Chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read)

[Jesus] entered Jericho and was passing through. ² And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³ And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. ⁴ So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." ⁶ So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. ⁷ And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." ⁸ And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." ⁹ And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Explanation of the Creeds

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 Nicene Creed.

NICENE CREED

All: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who

spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, we acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S HYMN

We invite the children to come forward as we sing:

#740 "I Am Jesus Little Lamb" (vs. 1-2)

1. I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.
2. Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – DCE Tim Buss

SERMON HYMN #686 (vs. 1-4)

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"



- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Come, Thou Fount | of ev - 'ry bless - ing, | Tune my heart to |
| 2 | Here I raise my | Eb - en - e - zer, | Hith - er by Thy |
| 3 | Oh, to grace how great a | debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - | |
| 4 | Oh, that day when freed from | sin - ning, I shall see Thy | |



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
 help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
 strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
 love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
 Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
 Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
 How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
 strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
 feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
 tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
 res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
 an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

SERMON Concordia Elders or DCE Tim Buss

“OPEN HANDS, GUARDED TONGUE”

TITHES, PLEDGES, AND OFFERINGS

(Please stand as able for the Prayers)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

L: Visit, O Lord, the homes in which Your people dwell, and keep all harm and danger far from them. Grant that we may dwell together in peace under the protection of Your holy angels, sharing eternally in Your blessings. Lord, in Your mercy....

People: Hear our prayer.

L: O father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need, look with favor upon Your servants. Assure them of your mercy and give them patience and comfort in their time of illness. We especially pray for..... If it please You, restore them to health or give them grace to accept this time of illness with courage and hope. Lord, in Your mercy....

People: Hear our prayer.

L: We pray for those who mourn. Heavenly Father, into whose keeping we entrust our loved ones, help us to look to You in our time of sorrow, remembering the faithful cloud of witnesses with which we are surrounded. Grant that we may one day share in the joys of those who now rest in Your presence. Lord, in Your mercy....

People: Hear our prayer.

L: Lord, God of hosts, stretch forth Your almighty arm to strengthen and protect those who serve in the armed forces of our country. We especially remember..... We also pray for all police officers and first responders. Support them in times of conflict, and in times of peace keep them from all evil, giving them courage and loyalty. Grant that in all things they may serve with integrity and with honor. Lord, in Your mercy....

People: Hear our prayer.

L: Lord, keep this nation under Your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the other nations of the earth. Grant that we may choose trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, be a nation of justice, and serve You faithfully in our generation. Lord, in Your mercy....

People: Hear our prayer.

L: Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter; for your holy Church, for the Means of Grace, for the lives of all faithful and just people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that You have done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness in lives that are wholly given to Your service. Lord, in Your mercy....

People: Hear our prayer.

L: Into Your hands, O lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

L: And now taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.

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)

L: 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 #794 (vs. 1-4)

"The Lord, My God, Be Praised"



1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heav - en;
2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heav - en,
3 The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heav - en,
△ 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ev - er - liv - ing,



My mak - er, who to me Has soul and bod - y giv - en;
The Fa - ther's own dear Son, Whose life for me was giv - en,
The Spir - it, whom the Son In love to me has giv - en.
To whom the heav'n - ly host Their laud and praise are giv - ing.



My Fa - ther, who will shield And keep me day by day
Who for my sin a - toned With His most pre - cious blood
His grace re - vives my heart And gives my spir - it pow'r,
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,



And make each mo-ment yield New bless - ings on my way.
 And gives to me by faith The high - est heav'n - ly good.
 Help, com - fort, and sup - port In sor - row's gloom - y hour.
 God Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Ho - ly Ghost.

THE SENDING

L: Our worship is now ended.

People: My service now begins.

L: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

IN SERVICE OF THE LORD TODAY:

Pastor	Rev. Mark Moretz
Organist	Cindy Golem
Pianist	Shelly Hector, Kathy Schleef
Lectors	Beverly Walling (5:30), Mark Eberly (8:00) John Ziegler (11:00)
Greeters	Volunteer (5:30) Diane Braun (8:00) Cheryl Dawson & Brenda Ellis (11:00)
Video	Sam Moretz, Jaymes Yeakle, and Adam Brown
Visuals	Cari Lowery, Fred Tichnell and Sam Moretz
Usher	Chip Brown, Dory Brown, Maggie Brown, Adam Brown, Joe brown, Carroll Gatling, Jody Gann, Jesse Lowrey, 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; Aubrey and Tommy
Davidson; Katie Hector;
Joe, Charlotte, Andrew and Sarah Brown;
Alexis and Nethanel Lowery; Grayson and
Logan Moreland

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ron & Cindy Golem.



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 be held Mondays at 1:30 p.m., with the study of Acts, Part 2.

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

“MISSION OF THE MONTH” for Erber Family, Lutheran Missionaries.

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 October - December (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

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

Vision

Concordia Lutheran Church proclaims the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people and is a dynamic, growing community of believers that welcomes everybody. The church focuses on God's Word and sacraments, serving our neighbors, worshipping our heavenly Father, and sharing those gifts with others.

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 Room

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 Bill Pekari)

- ***Open Arms Preschool***

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