

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

REFORMATION SUNDAY

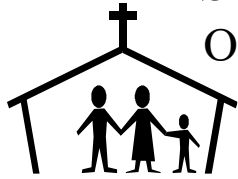
Sunday, October 25, 2026

11:00 a.m. Service in the Sanctuary

(With Holy Communion)

Online Worship posted to website Sunday afternoon

AS WE GATHER



On October 31, 1517, a monk and professor named Martin Luther posted ninety-five theses for debate at the Castle Church in Wittenberg. The spark was a sales pitch. Preachers were offering indulgences for cash, as though the mercy of God could be bought, bargained for, and carried home like a receipt.

Today, Reformation Sunday, we begin the Apostles' Creed with its First Article: "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth." For five weeks the Ten Commandments have shown us what God requires and how short we fall. Now the Creed turns our eyes from what we owe to what God gives. Luther's explanation lists it all: body and soul, eyes and ears, food and clothing, house and home, family and daily bread. And he ends with the words that shook Wittenberg: God does all this "without any merit or worthiness in me."

Nothing God gives is for sale. Not your next breath, not your daily bread, and not your salvation. As we gather, take stock of what you are holding this morning: the hands you will fold, the voice you will sing with, the people beside you. Every bit of it was given. Come and thank the Giver.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS (p. 27-28)

(Please stand as able and face the Cross)

OPENING VERSICLES (Psalm 46)

Pastor: ¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: ² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Pastor: ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

People: ⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

Pastor: ⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

People: ⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: ⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.

People: ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

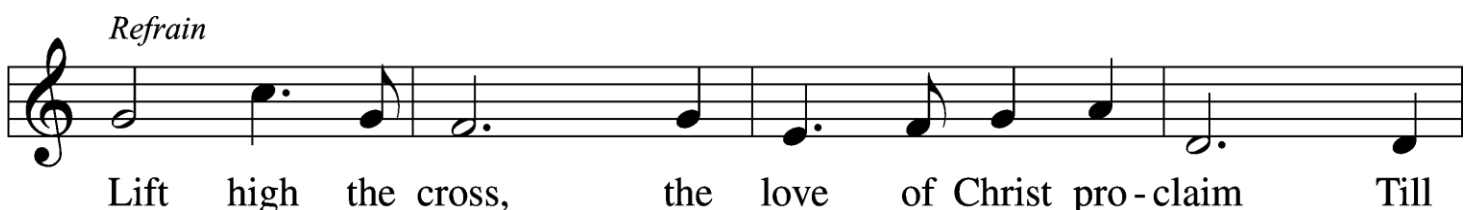
Pastor: ¹⁰ “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

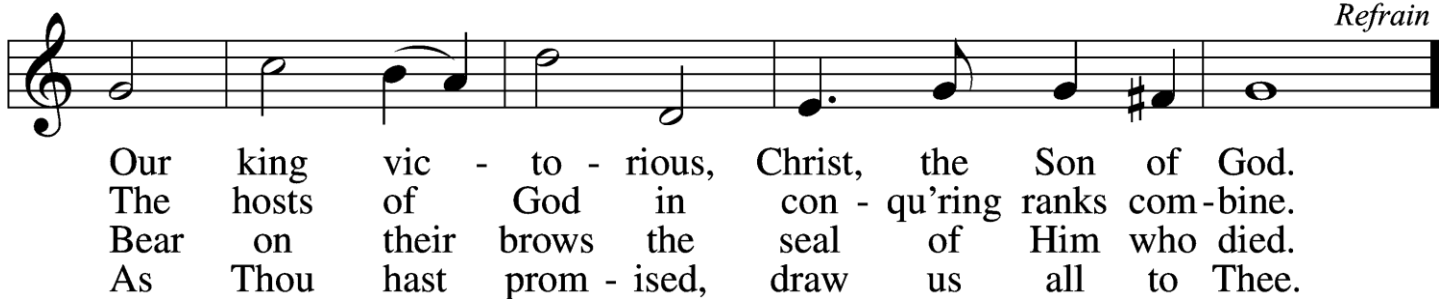
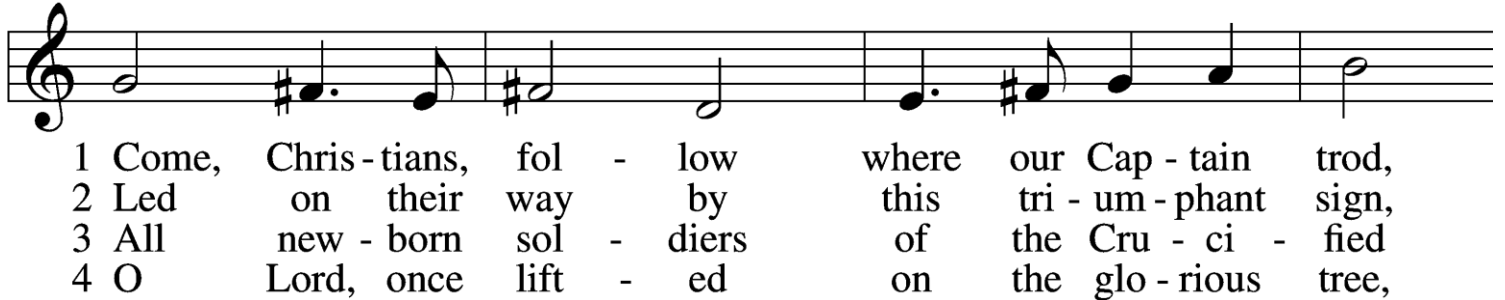
People: ¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

PROCESSIONAL / OPENING HYMN

#837 (vs. 1-6)

“Lift High the Cross”





5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

+ 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.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (The Forgiveness of Sins)

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: Almighty God, merciful Father,

People: 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)

ALL: 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)

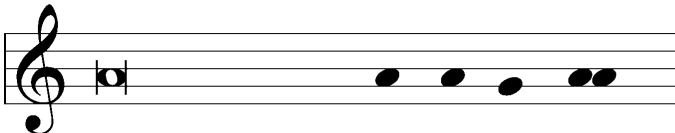
What do you believe according to these words?

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.

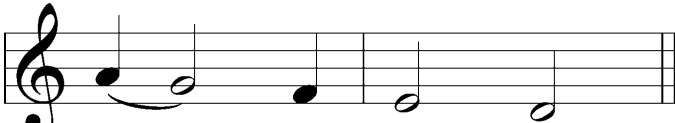
(1965, Luther’s Small Catechism, pg. 18; “The Office of the Keys and Confession”)

(please remain standing)

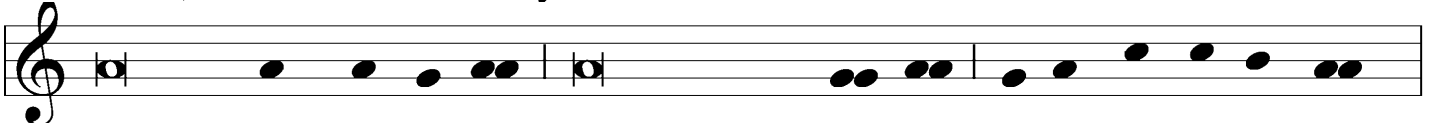
KYRIE - +DIVINE SERVICE - SETTING TWO +



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



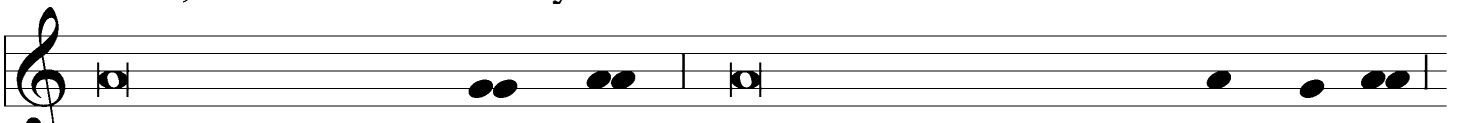
C Lord, have mer - cy.



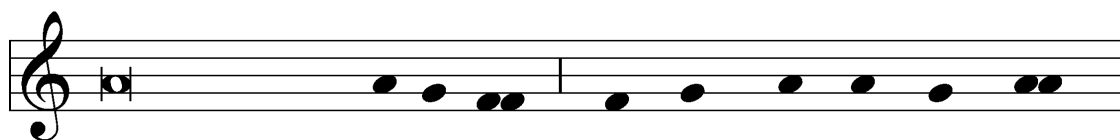
A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



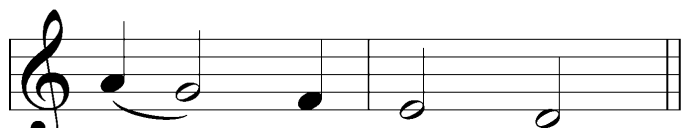
C Lord, have mer - cy.



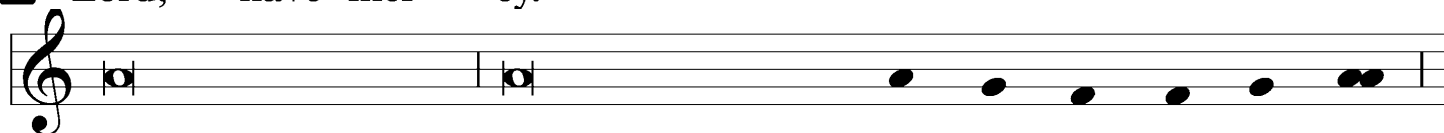
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



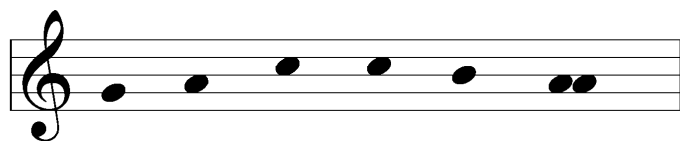
and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



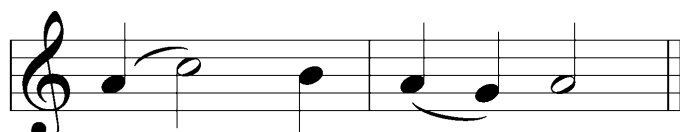
C Lord, have mer - cy.



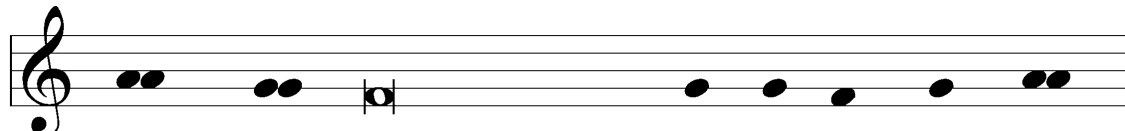
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



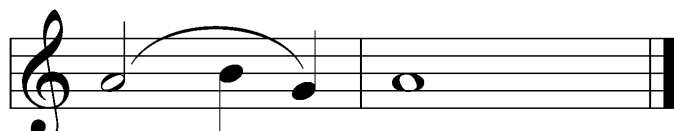
let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

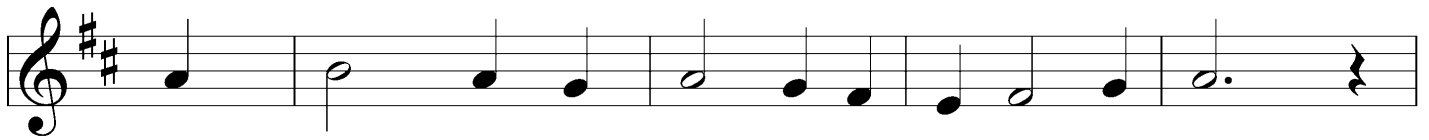
HYMN OF PRAISE *"This is the Feast"*



A This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



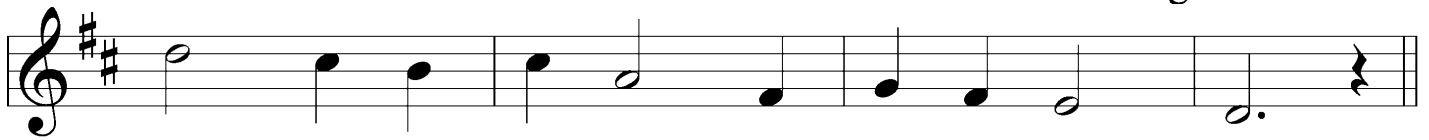
C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God. Al - le -



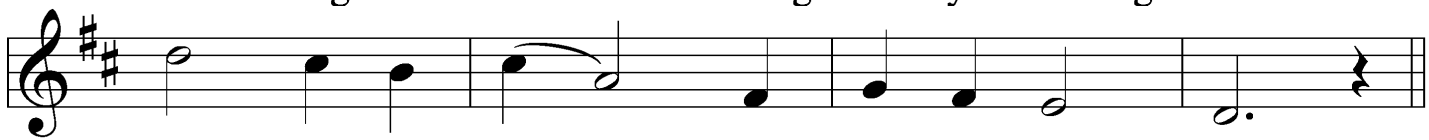
lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



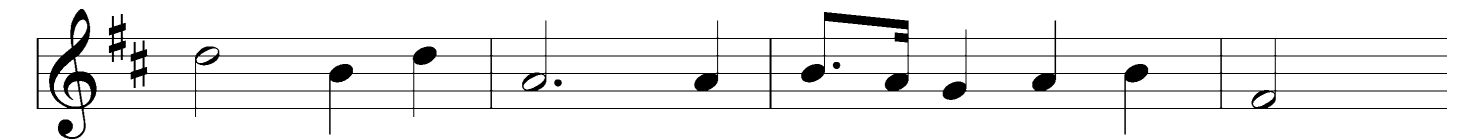
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



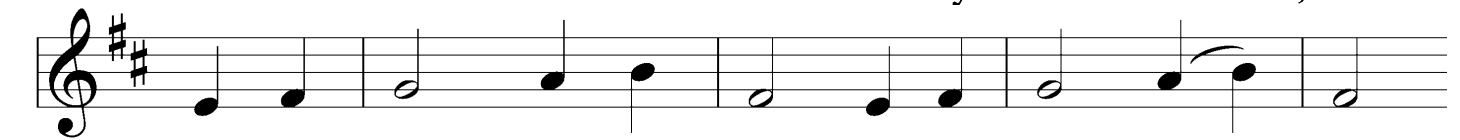
Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.



Salutation

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 PRAYER 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 and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your church Your saving peace; 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)

CHOIR *“Here I Stand” with “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*
 Words and Music by Larry Shackley

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

FIRST READING Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31 & 2:1-3
(The Creation)

Reader: The First reading is from Genesis, Chapters One and Two.

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make man^[h] in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷So God created man in his own image,
 in the image of God he created him;
 male and female he created them.

²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of

life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

(After the reading...)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING Romans 3:19–28

(The Righteousness of God Through Faith)

Reader: The Epistle Reading is from Paul’s letter to the Romans, Chapter Three.

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed

over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

(After the reading...)

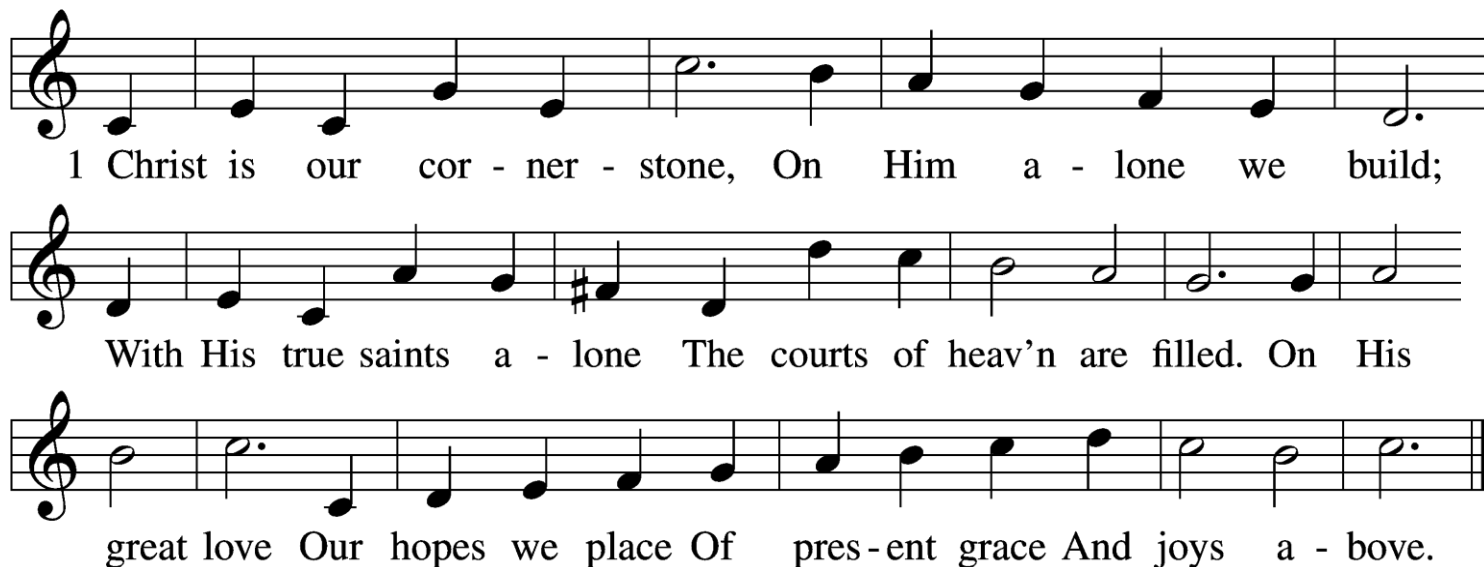
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

(Please stand as able for the Verse and Holy Gospel)

VERSE #912 (v. 1)

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”



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 5:2; 6:25-33

(Do Not Be Anxious)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Fifth and Sixth Chapters.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read)

5² And [Jesus] opened his mouth and taught them, saying:²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Pastor: 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 Apostles' Creed.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

Pastor: What does this mean?

ALL: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason, and all my senses, and still preserves them; Also clothing and shoes, meat and drink, house and home, wife and children, fields, cattle, and all my goods; that He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life; that He defends me against all danger, and guards and protects me from all evil; and all this purely out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all which it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true. *

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.

*(From Dr. Martin Luther's Small Catechism, 1971, Concordia Publishing House)

(Please be seated)

We invite the children forward as we sing: LSB 740, 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 every 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, Mr. Tim Buss

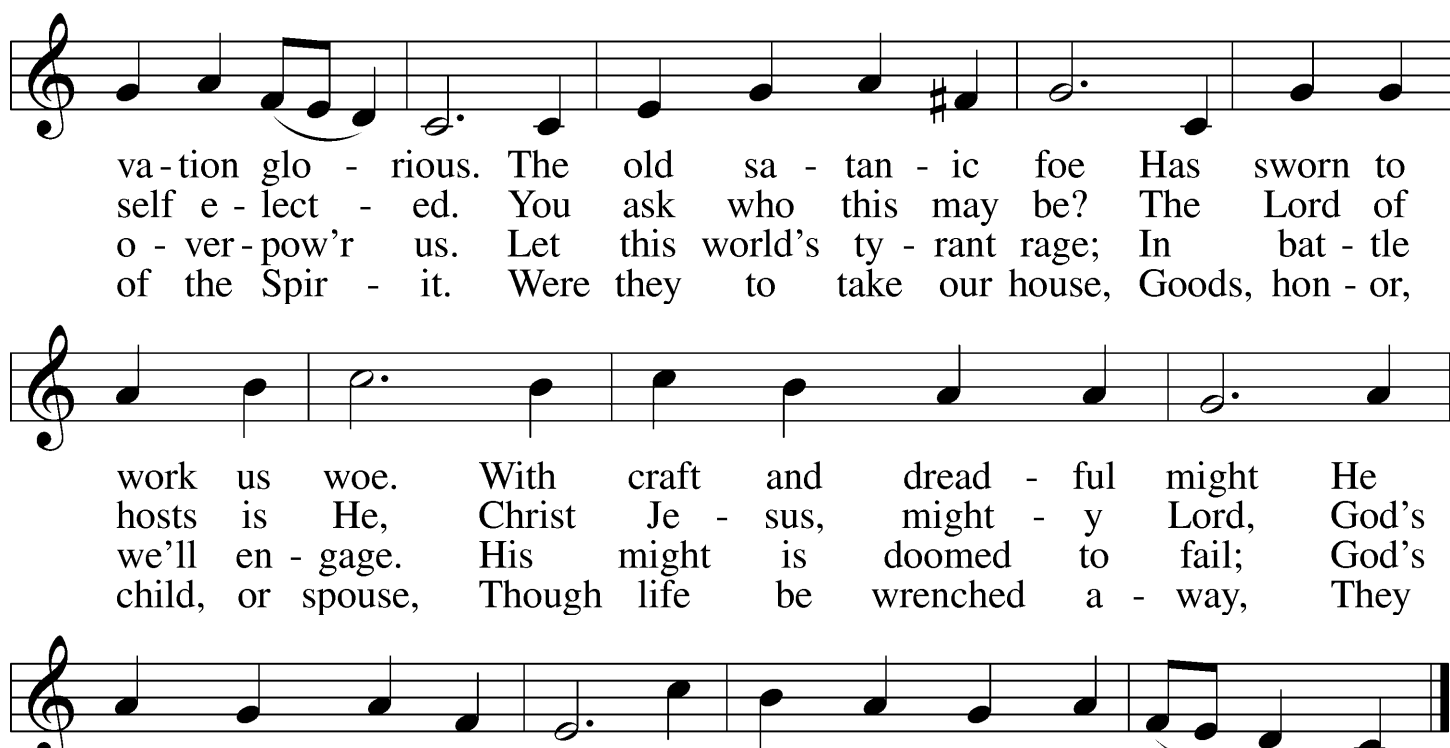
SERMON HYMN #657 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat-'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
 self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
 o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
 of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,
 work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
 hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
 we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
 child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They
 arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

SERMON Rev. Mark D. Moretz

“NOT FOR SALE”

TITHES, PLEDGES, AND OFFERINGS

(Please stand as able for the Prayers of the Church)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Forever, O LORD, Your Word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

People: Your faithfulness endures to all generations.

Pastor: And so we pray: Almighty and everlasting God, our refuge and strength, teach Your church not to fear but to trust Your unshakable promises, that faithful to Your Word, she might remain a present help for troubled hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Ever-living Lord, You have sent an eternal Gospel to be proclaimed to every nation and tribe and language and people. Raise up from among us faithful pastors, teachers, and missionaries who will proclaim the crucified and risen Christ as the only hope of sinners.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, our Comforter, when nations rage and kingdoms totter, protect all citizens of the world from danger and disaster and make Your holy people agents of peace who pursue the common good. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, truth incarnate, You ask Your people to abide in Your Word. Make us crave the nourishment of Scripture and build in us healthy habits and disciplines that put Your Holy Word central in our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Abiding Savior, You proclaim freedom from sin. Deliver Your servants also from illness, injury, infirmity, and grief. We lift up the sick and suffering and grieving among us, [*including . . .*]. Grant them comfort in Your presence and confidence in Your promises. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Faithful Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word, patient in suffering, bold in confession, and joyful in hope, until that day when the everlasting Gospel is heard in its fullness and every tongue confesses that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

ALL: Amen.

(Please remain standing as able for Holy Communion)

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.

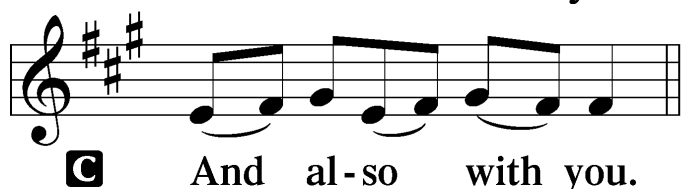
We encourage you to find a time to speak with your Adult Leader or pastor so we might be able to commune together with you sometime in the future.

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.

+ THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION + (Divine Service Setting II)

PREFACE

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



Pastor: Lift up your hearts. Colossians 3:1



C We lift them to the Lord.

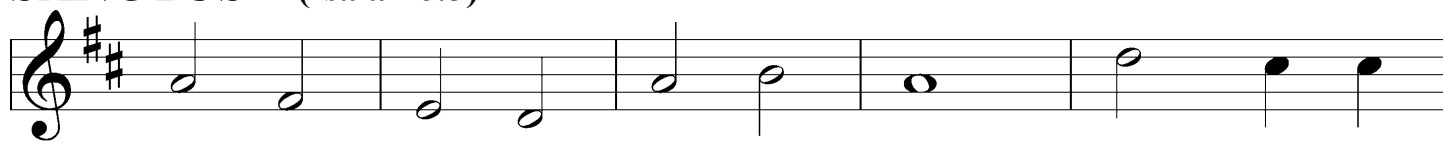
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 136



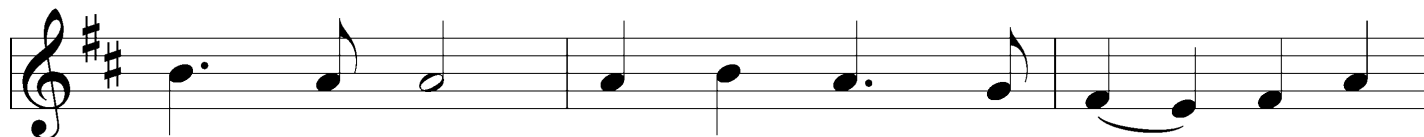
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS (Isaiah 6:3)



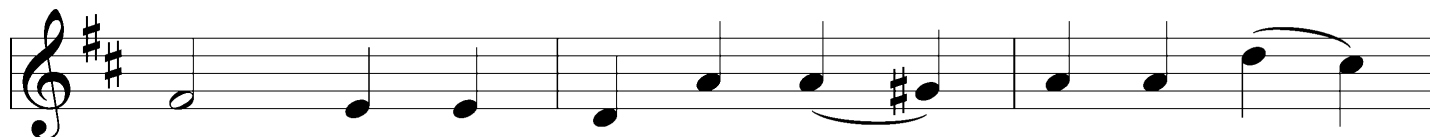
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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*)

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.

AGNUS DEI (John 1:29)

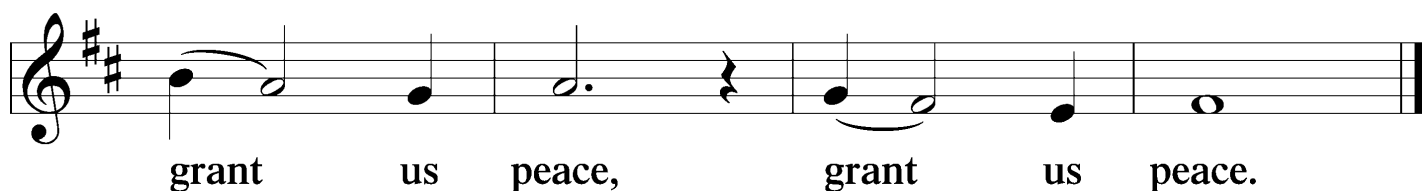


Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the

sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of

God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"I Love You Lord" ~ Maranatha

**I Love You, Lord, and I lift my voice
To worship You, O my soul, rejoice
Take joy my King in what You hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear. (*Three Times*)**

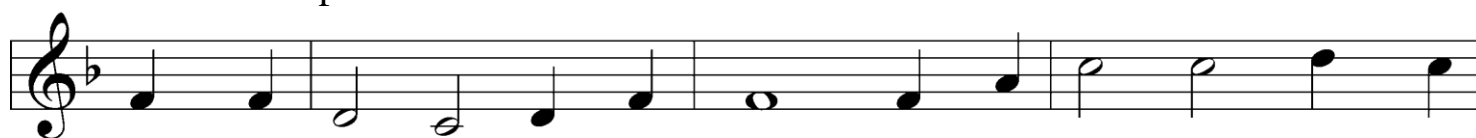
#849 *"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"* (vs. as needed)



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

611 *"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"* (vs. as needed)



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.

#571 "God Loved the World So that He Gave" (vs. as needed)



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
 That is the firmest ground of faith.

↑ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

#461 *"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"* (vs. as needed)



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 He lives, and I shall conquer death;
 He lives my mansion to prepare;
 He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to His name!
 He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
 Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

(Please stand as able for the Post-Communion Prayer)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: 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.

BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

People: Amen.

CLOSING / RECESSIONAL HYMN *“In Christ Alone”*

By Getty and Townend

**In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm**

**What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand**

**In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save**

**'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live**

**There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again**

**And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny**

**No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand**

**No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.**

Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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
Organist	Cindy Golem
Pianist	Shelly Hector, Kathy Schleef
Lector	Tim Buss (5:30) Maggie B. or Sam Moretz (11:00)
Greeters	Volunteer (5:30) Rosella Rogers & Sylvia Shives (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, Carroll 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; Aubrey and Tommy Davidson; Katie Hector; Joe, Charlotte, Andrew, and Sarah Brown; Nethanel and Alexis Lowery; Logan and Grayson Moreland

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ron and 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 – Monday 1:30 Bible Study with the Book of Acts, Part 2. The facilitator will be Trudy Borrelli.

CHOIR – The choir is rehearsing on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Come join us if you like to Praise the Lord with song. We can use more voices, especially men.

Leader - Kathy Schleef, accompanist -Shelly Hector.

“MISSION OF THE MONTH” for October is Erber Family Lutheran Missionaries

PORTALS OF PRAYER devotional books for October – December (and larger 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 2025 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

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