



Concordia Lutheran Church
4210 Johnson Ave NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 17, 2023

Announcements for September 17, 2023

Sunday (17)	8:30 am Contemporary Worship & Live Stream Voters' Meeting following service Thank You Spaghetti Lunch following Voters' Meeting 6:30-8:30 pm Youth Group
Monday (18)	4:30 pm Irish Class 6:15 pm Boy Scouts
Tuesday (19)	NO Holy Chair Yoga
Wednesday (20)	5:30-6:30 pm STEPP Up & Confirmation 6:00-7:00 pm Bells Begin
Sunday (24)	8:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Live Stream 10:00 am Adult Bible Class 6:30-8:30 Youth pm Group

Last week at Concordia: Attendance: 61 Planned Returning: \$2,727 Actual Return: \$1,488 YTD: (\$10,027)

Welcome Concordia members & guests—please be sure to fill out the attendance/communion cards located in each pew. Thank you!

STEPP UP REMINDER - Please return your child(ren)s registration if you haven't already. You can return them by mail, in the church drop box, or you can scan and email to concordia@imonmail.com. STEPP UP is every Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 pm. It is open to all PreK-5th grade youth. September's theme is "Back to School – Glorify God in the Classroom."

REMINDER - Voters' Meeting following today's service. Voter's packets are in the narthex.

We Appreciate You! After the Voters' meeting today, please stay for the Spaghetti Luncheon hosted by the Youth Group as a "thank you" to our members for all of your support. Lunch will include spaghetti & garlic bread, salad & a dessert. **Everyone is welcome!**

Thank you to all who donated snacks for the youth group. You are well stocked for now and we really appreciate your support!

Reminder to youth going on the Puerto Rico Mission Trip – your down payment is due today.

Butter Braids are now available to order! See a member of youth group to order yours or you can use the order form on the youth table in the narthex. Orders & payment are due on October 31st, and you may pick up your Butter Braid order on November 16th - just in time for the holidays!

Adult Volunteer Opportunity for Youth There is an opportunity within the Youth Group for a female adult volunteer. Recently, Jody Lippmann who was a long-time youth volunteer, was called home to be with her Savior for eternity. While Jody had many great attributes and was loved so much by many members of the congregation, especially the children, we know that there is no real and tangible way that she could ever be "replaced", there is a need for another adult female volunteer to be part of the regular meetings and trips that the youth go on. Wes Aquice has done an amazing job in coordinating activities and studies, but there is a need to have adult female supervision for the group as well. If you would be interested in helping, please get in touch with Wes or any member of the Board of Education and they can help fill in the details of how you can help. The most important qualities for this person to possess are patience and a great love for the children of our congregation.

Bells are Back! We will start meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:00-7:00 pm beginning on Wednesday, **September 20th**. If you are interested in playing the bells, please contact Charlene Parks.

TLS is hiring for a Lower Elementary Aide position 29 hours per week @ \$15.45/hr. We are looking for an aide to assist in one of our Kindergarten classrooms for the 2023-2024 school year. The person will work side-by-side with a Kindergarten teacher to engage and lead students through our kindergarten curriculum. A candidate should have an education background, either through years of experience or an education degree (preferred). The work hours are Monday-Friday between 8:00 am-3:15 pm. Send your resume to muellerm@trinitycr.org

Opening Song: “Come, Now is the Time to Worship” (Not in BOB)

**Verse: Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God
Come.**

**Chorus: One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God, one day ev'ry knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now.**

**Verse: Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God.
Come.**

**Chorus: One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God, one day ev'ry knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now.
Come**

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 66:1–3a, 4–5, 8

- P** Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
- C** sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!

- P** Say to God, “How awesome are Your deeds! . . .
- C** All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.”

- P** Come and see what God has done:
- C** He is awesome in His deeds toward the children of man.

- P** Bless our God, O peoples;
- C** let the sound of His praise be heard.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.
- C** O most gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We know well that we are by nature sinful and unclean. Daily we have done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as Your faithful servants. We have been unforgiving and loveless and careless in the stewardship of Your creation. We deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is not in ourselves but in the merits of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins and guide us into renewed lives that reflect Your goodness and love.

- P** God is indeed gracious and merciful and hears our supplications. By the command of my Lord Jesus Christ and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

WORD

Introit

Psalm 143:1–2; antiphon: v. 9

- P** Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!
- C** I have fled to You for refuge!

- P** Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
C In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!

- P** Enter not into judgment with Your servant,
C for no one living is righteous before You.

**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.**

- P** Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!
C I have fled to You for refuge!

Song of Praise “Spirit Song” BOB 202

**Verse 1: O let the Son of God enfold you
With His Spirit and His love
Let Him fill your life and satisfy your soul.
O let Him have the things that hold you
And His Spirit like a dove
Will descend upon your life and make you whole.**

**Chorus: Jesus, oh Jesus, come and fill Your lambs
Jesus, oh Jesus, come and fill Your lambs**

**Verse 2: O come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name
O give Him all your tears and sadness
Give Him all your years of pain
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.**

**Chorus: Jesus, oh Jesus, come and fill Your lambs
Jesus, oh Jesus, come and fill Your lambs**

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.
O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.” ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷‘Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Gradual and Verse

Psalm 34:9, 19 alt.; Matthew 6:14

- P** Fear the LORD, you His saints,
C for those who fear Him lack nothing!
- P** Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
C but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Verse

- P** Alleluia. If you forgive others their trespasses,
C your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

☐ 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.

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Sermon Song “Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord” BOB 180

Chorus: Open the eyes of my heart Lord, Open the eyes of my heart. I want to see You. I want to see You.
Open the eyes of my heart Lord, Open the eyes of my heart. I want to see You. I want to see You.

Verse: To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love, as we sing Holy, Holy, Holy.

Repeat Chorus and Verse

Tag: Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. I want to see You.
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. I want to see you.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church (each petition after ends)

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Offering

Song during Offering: “More Precious than Silver “BOB 161

Lord, You are more precious than silver.
Lord, You are more costly than gold.
Lord, You are more beautiful than diamonds.
And nothing I desire compares with you.

(Repeat x2)

Lord's Prayer

☐ 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

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

Closing Song: “Holy is the Lord” (Not in BOB)

**Verse: We stand and lift up our hands. For the joy of the Lord is our strength. We bow down and worship Him now.
How great, how awesome is He. And together we sing, everyone sing...**

Chorus: Holy is the Lord God Almighty, The earth is filled with His glory, Holy is the Lord God Almighty, The earth is filled with His glory, The earth is filled with His glory.

**Verse: We stand and lift up our hands. For the joy of the Lord is our strength. We bow down and worship Him now.
How great, how awesome is He. And together we sing, everyone sing...**

Chorus: Holy is the Lord God Almighty, The earth is filled with His glory Holy is the Lord God Almighty, The earth is filled with His glory The earth is filled with His glory.

Bridge: It is rising up, all around, it’s the anthem of the Lord’s renown. It is rising up, all around, it’s the anthem of the Lord’s renown. And together we sing, everyone sing...

End chorus: Holy is the Lord God Almighty, The earth is filled with His glory Holy is the Lord God Almighty, The earth is filled with His glory The earth is filled with His glory. The earth is filled with His glory.

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