



Concordia Lutheran Church  
4210 Johnson Ave NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405  
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 16, 2026

# Announcements for August 16, 2026

|              |                                                   |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday (16)  | 8:30 am Contemporary Worship & Live Stream        |
| Tuesday (18) | 9:00 am Holy Chair Yoga<br>7:00 pm Church Council |
| Sunday (23)  | 8:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Live Stream |

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

**Last week at Concordia: Attendance: 42   Planned returning: \$ 3,136   Actual returning: \$1,087   YTD: (\$10,675)**

**Singles:** Zion Lutheran Church in Hiawatha has a singles group for ages 18-100. During the summer months, they will host TWO events each month on various days. **THURSDAY, August 27:** Let's enjoy some jazz in Noelridge Park by meeting at the swimming pool entrance at 6:45 pm. Bring a chair, beverage & a snack to share. There are a few food trucks at the event as well. Please RSVP to either Zion at 319/393-2013 or Cindy Gewecke at 319/929-3077 (text accepted with your name) 24 hours in advance of the event. RSVP helps to provide notification in case of cancellation of the event or a change of venue.

**Building Healthy Families:** President Harry S. Truman once said, "A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of his opportunities and an optimist is one who makes opportunities of his difficulties." *Which are you?* Pessimists...how's this working for you? It's usually true that mood follows message: what we think or tell ourselves about a situation results in how we feel about what is happening. The next time you are feeling low or having a difficult day, stop and listen to what you are telling yourself. *Is it true?* Challenge and then replace negative, untrue thoughts with the truth. (Hint: look for truth in your Bible.) If you're stuck in a negative pattern of thought and life, you don't have to stay there. Please reach out. Your LFS counselors are available to help you learn to identify and change negative thought patterns, replacing them with truth. [www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org) **Lutheran Family Service**

## Joy at the Crossroads

### As We Gather

In today's Gospel, our Lord Jesus moved beyond His ministry initially among the Jews now to the Gentile woman of Canaan. The miracle greater than the healing of her daughter was her great faith in Jesus addressing Him, saying, "Lord, help me" (Matthew 15:25). Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord said He would bring "foreigners" to His "house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:6-7). Here He gives "many blessings even though we are undeserving" (Prayer of the Day). The early church learned how the Gentiles are grafted into Israel, making the Christian Church the fulfillment of the true Israel, God's people! The outreach of the Gospel of Christ continues through His church, calling all people "that He may have mercy on all" (Romans 11:32). Because of God's effective call, you can have steadfast confidence in His loving kindness and mercy.

### BOB #49 Enter In

1. Enter into His presence,  
Enter into His love.  
Enter into the presence  
of the Lord by His blood.  
Enter into salvation  
by the blood of the Lamb.  
Enter into the throne room  
Of the Great I am.
2. Enter into His presence  
And receive by His grace  
The privilege to worship him  
Here in this place.  
Enter into His presence;  
Let us bow before Him,  
Give Him glory and honor  
As we enter in.

Bridge: Enter into the throne room of God  
By the precious blood of the Lamb.  
Praise Him, praise Him;  
Sing of His great love  
As we all enter in

3. Enter into His presence,  
Enter into His love.  
Enter into the presence  
of the Lord by His blood.  
Enter into salvation  
by the blood of the Lamb.  
Enter into the throne room  
Of the Great I am.

## PREPARATION

### Invocation

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

### Opening Sentences

- P** I will go to the altar of God,  
**C** to God my exceeding joy.

*Psalms 43:4; Isaiah 56:7; Matthew 15:22*

**P** My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

**C** Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David.

### Confession and Absolution

**P** Today, though we are undeserving, we come to the Lord saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David.” Let us seek the Lord here while He may be found to grant us healing, help, and forgiveness.

**C** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of David, Son of God, we are severely oppressed by sin in all our thoughts, words, and actions. We have sinned against You by our own fault. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and grant us forgiveness, help, and salvation. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all who believe in the name of His only begotten Son, is the God of mercy and for His sake forgives us all our sins. Therefore, 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. In that mercy He gives power to become the children of God and promises His Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved.

**C** Amen.

## WORD

### Introit

The LORD is the strength of his people;  
**he is the saving refuge of his anointed.**

To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me,  
**lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.**

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help,  
**when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.**

Blessèd be the LORD!

**For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.**

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;  
**my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.**

**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.**

The LORD is the strength of his people;  
**he is the saving refuge of his anointed.**

### Sing a New Song to the Lord - page 39 Lift Up Your Hearts

1. Sing a new song to the Lord,  
He to whom wonders belong!  
Rejoice in his triumph  
And tell of his pow’r  
O sing to the Lord a new song!
2. Now to the end of the earth  
See his salvation is shown;  
And still he remembers  
His mercy and truth,  
Unchanging in love to his own.
3. Sing a new song and rejoice,  
Publish his praises abroad!  
Let voices in chorus,  
With trumpet and horn,  
Resounding for the joy of the Lord.

4. Join with the hills and the sea  
Thunders of praise to prolong!  
In judgment and justice  
He comes to the earth  
O sing to the Lord a new song!

### Salutation

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

### Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.  
Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 56:1, 6–8*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD:  
“Keep justice, and do righteousness,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed. . . .  
<sup>6</sup>“And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,  
and holds fast my covenant—  
<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.”  
<sup>8</sup>The Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,  
“I will gather yet others to him  
besides those already gathered.”

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

### Gradual

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

### Epistle

*Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32*

<sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. . . .  
<sup>13</sup>Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry <sup>14</sup>in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. <sup>15</sup>For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . .  
<sup>28</sup>As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. <sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they too have now been disobedient in order that

by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse

*Psalm 147:2–3*

**P** Alleluia. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel.

**C** He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 15:21–28*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” <sup>24</sup>He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup>And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>27</sup>She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## LSB #973 Thy Word is a Lamp

**Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet**

**And a light unto my path.**

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet**

**And a light unto my path.**

1. **When I feel afraid,  
Think I’ve lost my way,  
Still You’re there right beside me.  
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near.  
Please be near me to the end.**

**Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet**

**And a light unto my path.**

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet**

**And a light unto my path.**

2. **I will not forget  
Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus, be my guide and  
Hold me to Your side;  
And I will love You to the end.**

**Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet**

**And a light unto my path.**

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet**

**And a light unto my path.**

## Sermon

## **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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## **Prayer of the Church (each petition after ends)**

...let us pray to the Lord,     **Lord, have mercy.**

## **Offering**

### **BOB #65 Give Thanks**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ,  
His Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ,  
His Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"  
Let the poor say "I am rich because of what  
The Lord has done for us."  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"  
Let the poor say "I am rich because of what  
The Lord has done for us."**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ,  
His Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ,  
His Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"  
Let the poor say "I am rich because of what  
The Lord has done for us."  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"  
Let the poor say "I am rich because of what  
The Lord has done for us."  
Give thanks, Give thanks.**

## Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

## BOB #83 Heaven Is in My Heart

**Refrain:** Oh! Heaven is in my heart!  
Oh! Heaven is in my heart!

1. The kingdom of our God is here.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
The presence of His majesty.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
And in His presence joy abounds.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
The light of holiness surrounds.  
Heaven is in my heart!

**Refrain:** Oh! Heaven is in my heart!  
Oh! Heaven is in my heart!

2. His precious life on me He spent.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
To give me life without an end.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
In Christ is all my confidence.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
The hope of my inheritance.  
Heaven is in my heart!

**Refrain:** Oh! Heaven is in my heart!  
Oh! Heaven is in my heart!

3. We are a temple for His throne.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
And Christ is the foundation stone.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
He will return to take us home.  
Heaven is in my heart!  
The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!"  
Heaven is in my heart!

**Refrain:** Oh! Heaven is in my heart!  
Oh! Heaven is in my heart!