

# Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mission statement: "We celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ by living and sharing His Word and caring for God's creation."

## SENDING HYMN: #654 - The Church's One Foundation

- 1 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the word.  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
- 5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

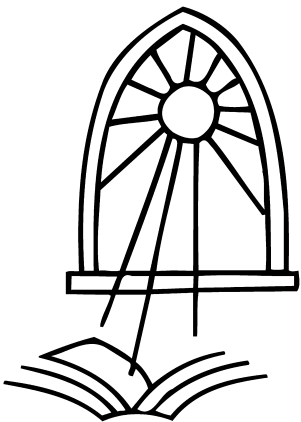
Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

**DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*The Worship is ended—The Service begins!*

After the service, please join us for  
Coffee time in the Fellowship Hall



**Pastor: Mary Anne Kingsborough**  
Pastor Emeritus: Thomas W. Rundell

**Ministers:**  
All Members of the Congregation

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## Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2023

9:30am Indoor/OUTDOOR Service of Word and Sacrament

*Welcome to Concordia Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
Columbia, Pennsylvania  
Welcome, worshipers!*

**OUTDOOR**

•**TUNE TO 105.5 FM** in car or portable radio.

**If using auxiliary, start your car engine often to avoid draining the battery.**

•To make this a safe and enjoyable service for everyone, please follow the following guidelines:

The **bulletin and communion elements** will be available in the Communion Station as you park. Please leave elements sealed until the Words of Institution.

When asked to consume them, please peel back the very top to consume the wafer, and then carefully pull back the covering over the juice. \*\*\*Parents should help children. You may dispose of the containers.

**Offerings** may be placed in the Offering Box.

**INDOOR** Offering—Passing of the plate, Use Hymnals for singing.

**At both services:**

**Prayer Requests** - Please tell an usher or place in the Prayer Box.

**Donations** for the **Food Bank** will also be accepted.

**INTRODUCTION:** Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

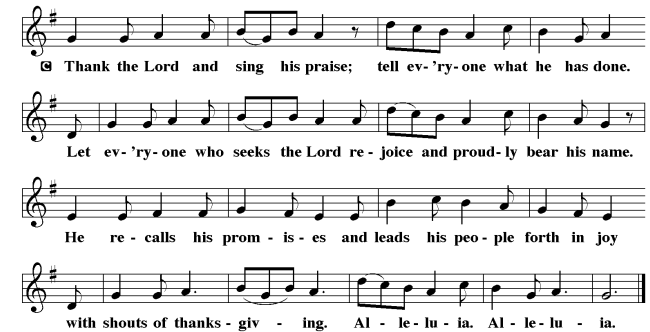
*Gathering*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

*When all have communed and returned to their seats, please stand as indicated by the pastor.)*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,  
and keep you in his grace. **Amen**



**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

A Let us Pray: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

*Sending*

**BLESSING:**

P God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the holy Spirit, be with you now and forever. C **Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.      **C**      **Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

((Outside - Open Communion Elements)

The Body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** / The Blood of Christ, shed for you.  
**Amen**

[**Inside-** Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of the usher. As you pass to the front, pick up a cup from the tray. Today we will receive the sacrament as you **come before the minister and assisting minister.** Children may come forward for a blessing. After communing, continue to the side aisle to return to your seat.]

### COMMUNION HYMN: #652 - *Built on a Rock*

- 1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling;  
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling—  
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed,  
longing for life everlasting.
- 2 Surely, in temples made with hands God the Most High is not dwelling—  
high in the heav'ns his temple stands, all earthly temples excelling.  
Yet he who dwells in heav'n above deigns to abide with us in love,  
making our bodies his temple.
- 3 Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation;  
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation.  
Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace,  
blessings upon them bestowing.
- 4 Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing;  
hither we come to praise his name, faith in our Savior confessing.  
Jesus to us his Spirit sent, making with us his covenant,  
granting his children the kingdom.
- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing,  
many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing:  
"I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see;  
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.  
Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✠ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.      **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.**  
**We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.**  
**We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.**  
**For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.**  
**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation,**  
**forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, for-**  
**give us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;**  
**in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.      **Amen.**

### Gathering Hymn: #504—*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;  
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!  
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.  
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us,  
we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpower us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage! His might is doomed to fail;  
God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;  
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.  
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,  
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C And also with you.

This Is the Feast

Refrain  
Assisting minister

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

All

1 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.

Refrain

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

2 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.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. >>>>

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. [Amen.] Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [Amen.] Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. [Amen.]

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.  
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.  
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.  
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope. Amen

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

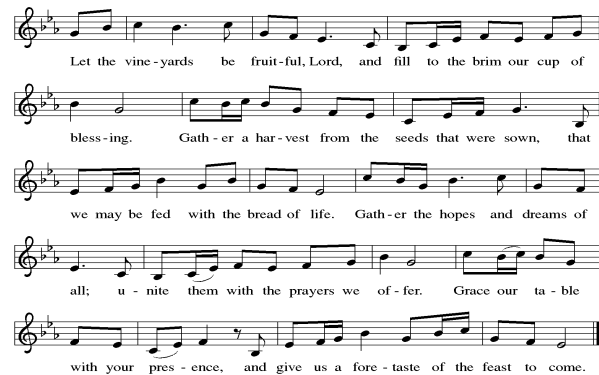
## The Meal

### Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.   **C And also with you.**

**OFFERING**      Music Selection

### OFFERTORY:



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us Pray. God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.  
We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.  
Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.   **C And also with you.**  
P Lift up your hearts.      **C We lift them to the Lord.**  
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salva-  
tion, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty.  
When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child.

## The Word

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

*The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.*

Word of God! Word of Life!      **C Thanks Be To God!**

### PSALM: Psalm 46

- <sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- <sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- <sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.
- <sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth<sup>1</sup> melts away.**
- <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- <sup>8</sup>**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**
- <sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire.
- <sup>10</sup>**“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted  
among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
- <sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

Word of God! Word of Life! C Thanks Be To God!

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)



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The Holy Gospel according to John, the Eighth Chapter:

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup>They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord. C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

(Silence for reflection and prayer)

HYMN OF THE DAY: #597 - My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1 My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; in ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. Refrain

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood; when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay. Refrain

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found, clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne! Refrain  
Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

Apostles’ Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

And born of the virgin Mary, He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the

Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the transformative power of God’s loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. A brief silence.

Each petition concludes with: God of grace, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.