

Let us then with  
**CONFIDENCE**  
Draw near to the throne of  
**GRACE**  
that we may receive  
**MERCY** and find **GRACE**  
to help in time of need.

**HEBREWS 4:16**

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021**

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH, CONOVER NC**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation with confidence in the Words of our Lord Jesus, who gives not only bread and wine but his true body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1Cor 11:27-29). Reception of Holy Communion here at Concordia is a public confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Those who are not yet baptized, instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

## PRELUDE

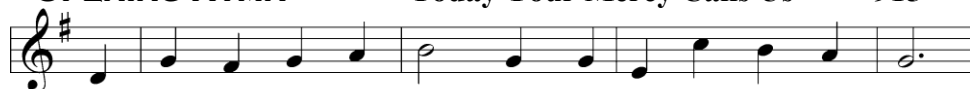
## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We stand.*

### OPENING HYMN

### "Today Your Mercy Calls Us"

915



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.  
 2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in  
 3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;  
 4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,  
 Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.  
 His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.  
 What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,  
 The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,  
 No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;  
 When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.  
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.  
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.  
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

## INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, Your divine wisdom sets in order all things in heaven and on earth. Put away from us all things hurtful and give us those things that are beneficial for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*We sit.*

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Ecclesiastes 5:10-20**

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger.

Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **ANTHEM**

**“What a Friend!**

**Don Besig**

When you feel discouraged, when you're lost and alone,  
Ask the Lord to help you. He will claim you as His own.  
If you need to find an answer, He will hear your silent prayer.  
Anywhere life leads you, you will find Him always there.

When your life seems empty, let Him take your hand.  
He will not forsake you, He will help you understand.  
With a heart that's always open, with a love that has no end.  
He will stand beside us. He's our Master and our friend.

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear.  
We should never be discouraged. Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness. Take it to the Lord in prayer.

What a friend we have in Jesus, He is always at our side.  
Oh, what joy and peace it brings us knowing He will be our guide.  
Follow everywhere He leads you: He will never let you stray.  
What a friend we have in Jesus. Give your heart to Him today.

## **EPISTLE READING**

## **Hebrews 4:1-16**

Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said,

“As I swore in my wrath,  
‘They shall not enter my rest,’”

although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.” And again in this passage he said,

“They shall not enter my rest.”

Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, again he appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted,

“Today, if you hear his voice,  
do not harden your hearts.”

For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints

and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*We stand.*

### ALLELUIA & VERSE



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### HOLY GOSPEL

**Mark 10:23-31**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus

looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.” Peter began to say to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*We sit.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## “Amazing Grace”

744

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
 Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
 have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me  
 mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
 safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.  
 then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
 sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Tune and text: Public domain

Text (sts. 1s–4s): © 1991 Editorial Concordia. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004222

**SERMON** “A Great Example Not to Follow” Pastor Michael Geml

*We stand.*

## **NICENE CREED**

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life **T** of the world to come. Amen.

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **PREFACE**

**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.**

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and have showed Your gracious power to us through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper, first given on the night He was betrayed, You reveal Your sacred presence among us. Grant that we receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood as we gather at His command.

**C Amen.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

### PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

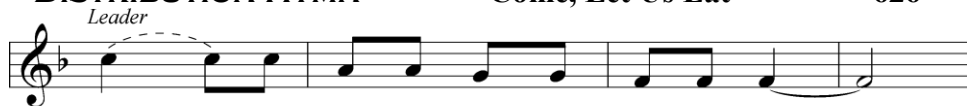
**C and also with you.**

*We sit.*

### DISTRIBUTION HYMN

### "Come, Let Us Eat"

626



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
3 In His pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word,



Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
In His pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom,

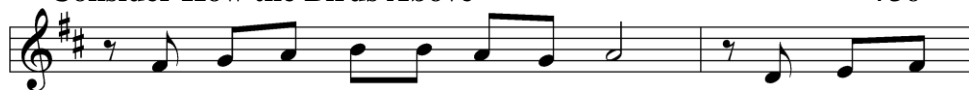


Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom.

Tune and text: © Lutheran World Federation. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004222  
 Text (st. 4): © 1972 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004222

## “Consider How the Birds Above”

736



1 Con - sid - er how the birds a - bove Feed day by  
 2 The lil - ies grow, they do not toil; How fair is  
 3 Set not your heart on food or drink, Nor be weighed  
 4 Be on your guard a - gainst all greed, For life is



day with care - free ease— Does God not keep them  
 their fra - gil - i - ty— If God clothes these, which  
 down by world - ly care; A - bout such things the  
 more than what we own. Our Fa - ther knows our



in His love? Are we not worth much more than these?  
 quick - ly spoil, Will He not clothe both you and me?  
 god - less think, Yet nev - er thank the Lord in prayer.  
 ev - 'ry need Be - fore our needs to us are known.

- 5 Be not afraid to suffer loss  
 Of all the things for which you pray,  
 For He who faced for you the cross  
 Will give you strength to live each day.

6 Seek first God's reign, His boundless grace,  
 His holy name in all you do:  
 Christ first and last in ev'ry place;  
 All else will then be given you.

Text: © 1998 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004222  
 Tune: © 2004 Daniel Zager. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004222

*We stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

## BENEDICTION

### CLOSING HYMN "God, Whose Almighty Word" 979



1 God, whose al - might - y word Cha - os and  
 2 Lord, who once came to bring, On Your re -  
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, Life - giv - ing,  
 Δ 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, Glo - ri - ous



dark - ness heard And took their flight: Hear us, we  
 deem - ing wing, Heal - ing and sight, Health to the  
 ho - ly dove, Speed forth Your flight; Move on the  
 Trin - i - ty, Wis - dom, love, might! Bound - less as



hum - bly pray, And where the Gos - pel day  
 sick in mind, Sight to the in - ly blind:  
 wa - ter's face, Bear - ing the lamp of grace,  
 o - cean's tide, Roll - ing in full - est pride,



Sheds not its glo - rious ray, Let there be light!  
 Oh, now to hu - man - kind Let there be light!  
 And in earth's dark - est place Let there be light!  
 Through the earth, far and wide, Let there be light!

Tune and text: Public domain

## POSTLUDE