

# **CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH CONOVER, NC**

**143<sup>RD</sup> ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING SERVICE**

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2021**

**11 AM**

## PRELUDE

“A Mighty Fortress”

“Prelude on Ellecombe”

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Unifour Brass Ensemble

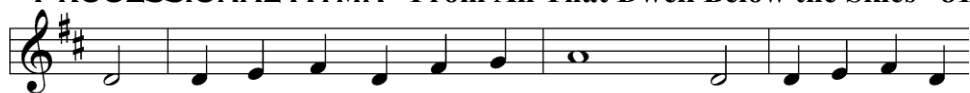
Luther/Wyrick

arr. Carpenter

Elvey/Evans

*We stand and face the rear of the nave.*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN “From All That Dwell Below the Skies” 816



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies

Let the Cre - a - tor's

2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord;

E - ter - nal truth at -

△ 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be,

All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise;

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

tends Thy Word.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Son, to Thee.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung

Through ev - 'ry land by

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore

Till suns shall rise and

Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore

For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

set no more.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ev - er - more:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Tune and text: Public domain

## INVOCATION

**A** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

**A** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**A** 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.

**A** 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**A** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**A** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*We sit.*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 116:1-9

I love the LORD, because he has heard  
my voice and my pleas for mercy.  
Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.  
The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;  
I suffered distress and anguish.  
Then I called on the name of the LORD:  
“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”  
Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;  
our God is merciful.  
The LORD preserves the simple;  
when I was brought low, he saved me.  
Return, O my soul, to your rest;  
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.  
For you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears,  
my feet from stumbling;  
I will walk before the LORD  
in the land of the living.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**ANTHEM** “O Lord, I Love the Habitation of Your House” M. Bender

O Lord, I love the habitation of your house  
And the place where your glory dwells.

Forever, O Lord, your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

O Lord, I love the habitation of your house  
And the place where your glory dwells.

## EPISTLE READING

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

**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 9:14-29**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

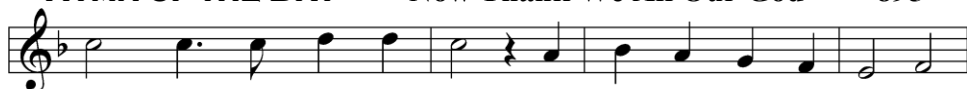
**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted him. And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

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

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

# HYMN OF THE DAY “Now Thank We All Our God” 895



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voice - es,  
 2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,  
 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won - drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;  
 With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us  
 The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way  
 And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed  
 The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.  
 And free us from all ills In this world and the next!  
 For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

*We sit.*

**SERMON** “Gracious is the Lord, and Righteous” Pastor Alex Slotter

*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  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*We sit.*

## CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION ANNIVERSARIES

*(10 years, 25 years, 50 years)*

### PRAYER

**P** Lord God, we thank You for Your great goodness in making us  
Your sons and daughters. Continue to enable us both with the  
heart to believe and with the mouth to confess Your saving name.

**C** By the power of Your Spirit, help us to bring forth the fruits  
of faith that we may continue steadfast and victorious to the  
day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall  
receive the crown of righteousness. Guide our congregation  
that all that we are and all that we do is done to Your glory  
and for the good of all Your people. Fill us with Your love;  
help us to keep and share the peace of the Lord; and give us  
patience and joy as we look forward to the day of resurrection  
of all flesh. In Christ's name. Amen.

## REDEDICATION OF CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH SANCTUARY

**A** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

**C** Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

**A** Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his;

**C** we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

**A** Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

**C** Give thanks to him; bless his name!

**A** For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever,

**C** and his faithfulness to all generations.

*We stand.*

### PREFACE

**A** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**A** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**A** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**A** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament.

Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

### PAX DOMINI

**A** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** and also with you.

### AGNUS DEI



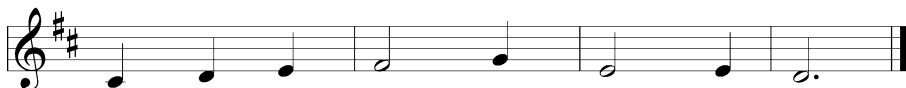
**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



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



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*We sit.*

## DISTRIBUTION

“Aria”

Handbell Choir

Michael Helman

“This Joyful Eastertide”

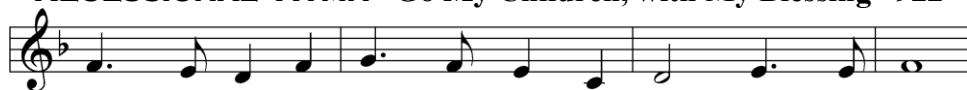
arr. Wilkenson

*We stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

## BENEDICTION

### RECESSIONAL HYMN “Go My Children, with My Blessing” 922



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.  
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos - er to Me;  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you  
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My  
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.  
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.  
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.  
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.  
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy - ful and free.  
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

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## POSTLUDE

“Heth Sold Ein Meisken”

Haas