



## *Concordia Lutheran Church*

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## *Welcome to Concordia*

*A Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod Congregation*

*The back pews are reserved for families with small children.*

*A nursery is available in our multipurpose room  
on the side of the narthex.*

*Large-print bulletins are available from the usher.*

Friday, September 4, 2020  
Sunday, September 6, 2020

# The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Friday, September 4, 2020

Sunday, September 6, 2020

Welcome

Hymn: "Evening and Morning"

LSB 726

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Confession of Sin & Absolution

Pastor: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"

**People: and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5b)**

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you have ordained all the powers that be on this earth.

**People: We confess that we have failed to acknowledge your authority through them; we have neglected to take personal responsibility for the ordering of our society; we have grumbled whenever we disliked the decisions made by those holding office. Forgive us and show us how we may rightfully serve you and one another.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, you have called your Church to seek out our wayward brothers and sisters in Christ with the precious news of your forgiveness and new life.

**People: We confess that we have given up on many people when they have sinned against us, or they have grown cold in the faith. Forgive us and strengthen us so that we may reconnect with them in meaningful ways, offering your grace and forgiveness.**

Pastor: Christ our Lord, you are inclined to mercifully consider the plight of children, the oppressed, and the downtrodden.

**People: We confess that we have neglected the "little ones" in our society, except for those in our families and through organized charities. Forgive us and open our eyes to see you in the least of those around us.**

Pastor: Jesus promised, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." *(Matthew 18:20)* He has heard our confession, in his mercy and grace. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Kyrie

Pastor: For peace in our nation and around the world, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: For peace in our hearts and among our brothers and sisters in the Christian faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: For peace proclaimed in this holy house, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Prayer**

Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, in our sinful weakness, we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and love in the world and in your Church. Renew our concern for each other and our commitment to proclaim your reign of love. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**Old Testament**

*Ezekiel 33:7-9*

**(The prophet must warn the people.)**

Pastor: <sup>7</sup>“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. <sup>9</sup>But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.” This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn: “‘As Surely as I Live’, God Said” (vv. 1-2)**

*LSB 614*

**Psalm 32:1-7**

Pastor: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered.

**People: Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

Pastor: For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**People: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

Pastor: I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**People: Therefore, let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.**

Pastor: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;

**People: You surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

**ALL: 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.**

**Epistle**

*Romans 13:1-10*

**(God has established the earthly governmental powers.)**

Pastor: <sup>1</sup> Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup> Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so

will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup>For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. <sup>4</sup>For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. <sup>6</sup>This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup>Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. <sup>8</sup>Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law. This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Alleluia & Verse**

*Matthew 5:3*

Pastor: Alleluia! Blessed are the poor in spirit,

**People: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.**

### **Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 18:1-20*

**(God wants no one to perish.)**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

Pastor: <sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup>He called a little child to him and placed the child among them. <sup>3</sup>And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>5</sup>And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. <sup>6</sup>If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. <sup>7</sup>"Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come! <sup>8</sup>If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell. <sup>10</sup>See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. <sup>11</sup>The Son of Man came to save what was lost. <sup>12</sup>"What do you think? If a

man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? <sup>13</sup> And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. <sup>14</sup> In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish. <sup>15</sup> “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. <sup>16</sup> But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ <sup>17</sup> If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**Hymn: “‘As Surely as I Live’, God Said” (vv. 3-5)**

*LSB 614*

**Sermon: “Good Government is Godly” Romans 13:1-10**

**Hymn: “‘As Surely as I Live’, God Said” (vv. 6-8)**

*LSB 614*

**Prayers of the Church**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and bless you, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**Hymn: “My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker”**

*LSB 820*

**Announcements**

**Postlude**

**Participants in this Morning’s Service**

Greeters:	Rick and Patty Lorenz
Organist:	Barb Burroughs
Acolyte:	Ethan Best
Elder:	Alan Grebing
Ushers:	Devin Ponder, Brandon Thurm, Garrett Hemman, Eric Barich
Audio/Visual Team:	Tony Vogel, Donna Hecht

## This Week's Schedule

Mon., Sept. 7 (Labor Day)		No School
Tues., Sept. 8	7 p.m.	Elders Meeting
Wed., Sept. 9	9 a.m.	Bible Study (Zechariah)
	5:45 p.m.	Constitution Committee Meeting
	7 p.m.	Bible Study (Zechariah) (No Worship)
Fri., Sept. 11		
Sun., Sept. 13	9 a.m.	Mission Festival at Trinity (EPC Fairgrounds)
	After Worship	Car Wash (Hosted by Concordia LYF)

## Announcements

**Church Attendance:** Worship – 138 (Friday-20, Sunday-118), one year ago – 129; Adult Bible Class – 14, one year ago – 24

**As We Gather:** Today, we hear how our citizenships in God's kingdom and our nation are united. Ezekiel is called as a watchman to warn his fellow citizens, as are all Christians. St. Paul urges obedience to the ruling authorities (whom we have elected) and then reminds us that loving each other fulfills God's Law. Jesus teaches us to care for children and to confront those who have given in to temptation. We are called to define sin according to God's Law and then offer his grace and forgiveness according to the Gospel. "The buck," our core responsibility, starts and stops with each one of us.

**As the owner of all things,** God has given us many blessings to manage. That's the basic truth of Christian stewardship. However, there is no greater blessing for us to steward than the Gospel itself. It is not just an abstract thought or idea. The Gospel is what has changed your life forever, as you experience its power and love through faith in Jesus Christ. **Stewardship Basics** is the current topic for **Sunday morning Bible study, which begins at 8 a.m. each week.** Please join us and grow in your stewardship of the Gospel!

**Stewardship thought for the week:** “(Jesus said), ‘Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.’” (Matthew 18:4) What does it mean to have childlike faith? Certainly, Jesus does not want us to have a faith that is *childish*. We are not called to ignorance or foolishness. Rather, we are called to trust the way a child trusts—with complete confidence in the Heavenly Father. We show that confidence in our lives when we follow his directives for our life. Father knows best, so we'll take his advice!

**Sharing his eight night visions with the people of Judah, the prophet Zechariah encouraged them to keep on repenting of their sin as they re-built God's Temple in Jerusalem in the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C.** Do we need to hear a similar message? You bet! Living in the midst of a fallen world; knowing that we, too, are sinners in need of forgiveness, God in Christ calls us to repent, and he encourages us, as he builds us into his “holy temple in the Lord. In him, you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:21-22) That's the focus for our Wednesday Bible study, which meets each week at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

**Order in the Order: The SONG (or hymn) OF PRAISE** (sometimes called “the Gloria”) is our response to the Good News: that in Christ, we are forgiven and now live at peace with God. We praise the triune God for who He is and for all that He has done for us in this song.

**Please pick up your copy of “The Lutheran Witness” today! – The September issue is available** on the north buffet.

**Next weekend, there will be no Bible study or public worship at Concordia (Friday or Sunday),** because we are invited to participate in Trinity, Altenburg’s annual Mission Festival worship service. It begins at 9 a.m. at the fairgrounds. Please don’t look at next Sunday as a Sunday off from being with God’s people. Instead, see it as an excellent opportunity to learn more about what God is doing in the world beyond Perry County; an opportunity to celebrate and participate in God’s mission to the world.

**Harvest Home Festival** — Please bring fruits, vegetables, or other items to be displayed for the Harvest Home Festival Services by Thursday, September 17, at 6 p.m. LWML members will be arranging the items that evening to have the church ready for worship on Friday at 11 a.m. Items may be picked up after worship on Sunday, September 20. Thank you for your help in praising and thanking God for the harvest.

**On Sunday, September 20 (and Friday, September 18) we will observe “Harvest Home Sunday”** at Concordia. In response to God’s goodness to us, **we are adding a new feature this year.** We are asking each household at Concordia to bring, as an offering, **three imperishable food items** to be donated to Immanuel, Perryville’s, food pantry, for distribution in the county. Suggested items include: canned fruits and vegetables (green beans, peas, corn, carrots, pears, peaches, etc.); any kind of canned soup; peanut butter and jelly; boxed mixes, such as hamburger helper, cake mixes, pancake mix, macaroni and cheese, etc.; canned tuna, salmon or chicken. As we give thanks to God for a wonderful fall harvest, let’s also take this opportunity to bless others from the abundance of our blessings!

**A new small-group Bible study for parents with young children** will meet for the first time at 6:30 p.m., Monday, September 21, under the Frohna Park shelter. Led by Whitney and Garrett Hemman, the group will meet on the first and third Mondays of the month, focusing on God’s wisdom in the book of Proverbs. If you and your spouse are interested in participating, contact Whitney at 768-4344.

**A newsletter from Rev. Gary and Stephanie Schulte,** serving the Congo Republic, Africa, is posted on the bulletin board in the church narthex.

**Did you know...**if you are 70½ years old, or older, and have an IRA, you can instruct your IRA trustee to make a distribution directly from your IRA to Concordia Lutheran Church. This distribution is called Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). It counts toward satisfying any required minimum distributions (RMDs) and is excluded from your income for tax purposes. If you have questions, or want to know more, please contact Carol Duggan at 824-6060.

### **Concordia Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) Notes**

**Concordia Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF)** will be holding a car wash next Sunday, September 13, immediately after worship at the fairgrounds. There is no set amount per car. It will be a free-will offering. Coffee and doughnuts will be served as you wait for your car to be finished. All proceeds will go to sending our young people to the next LCMS National Youth Gathering in 2022 in Houston, Texas. Thanks in advance for your participation!

### **Saxony Lutheran High School Notes**

**For news from Saxony Lutheran High School,** and information on upcoming events, please see the Saxony newsletter. Copies of the first page are available on the south buffet. A complete copy of the most recent issue can be viewed by visiting Saxony’s

website, saxonylutheranhigh.org, and selecting “September 2020 Newsletter”. A complete copy is also posted on the bulletin board in the church narthex.

**Neighboring Church & Community Notes**

**GriefShare** will be held beginning Monday, September 14, in the afternoons (1:30-3:30 p.m.) or evenings (6-8 p.m.) (social distancing), in the Grace Lutheran School Basement, Uniontown. This is for anyone who has lost a loved one. We will view the video lesson, have discussion, and encourage you to do daily meditations in your “Mourning to Joy” workbook. Register today by calling the Grace Lutheran Church Office (788-2342). The cost is \$15. More information is available on the church website, or, if you have any questions, please contact Diane Winningham.

**An American Red Cross Blood Drive** (appointments only) will be held on Monday, September 21, from 2-6 p.m. in the Trinity Lutheran School Gym, Altenburg.

**The LLL Men’s Bible Retreat** will be held Friday-Sunday, October 23-25, at Camp SEMO, Wappapello. The program topic will be “*The Two Kingdoms of Church and State and its Application to the USA Today*”. Rev. Joseph Schlie will be the guest presenter. (Watch upcoming bulletins for more information.)

**KFUO Notes**

**This week on KFUE.org**, continue studying the book of Proverbs on *Sharper Iron* (weekdays at 8 a.m.). Study Psalm 113, and continue in the book of 1 Samuel, on *Thy Strong Word* (weekdays at 11 a.m.), and worship with us in daily chapel services at 10 a.m. from the LCMS International Center. Find programming on demand at kfuo.org or your favorite podcasting app.

**“Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life**

**“On earth, there will be no shortage of burdens to bear as we care for those in need.** But one day, these burdens will be lifted from our shoulders in heaven, where the Lord will see us through the lens of Christ’s perfect sacrifice and will say, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! ... Enter into the joy of your master.’ (Matthew 25:21) Rest in his unfailing love.” *Marie K. MacPherson, author – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

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**Weekly Devotions (Pentecost 15)**

**Hymn of the Week**

**LSB 865**

**“Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain”**

Lord, help us ever to retain  
The Catechism’s doctrine plain  
As Luther taught the Word of truth  
In simple style to tender youth.

**Bible Stories**

- 09/07 -- M: No School
- 09/08 -- Tu: Genesis 7:1-24
- 09/09 -- W: Genesis 8:1-22
- 09/10 -- Th: Genesis 9:1-17
- 09/11 -- F: Genesis 11:1-9

**Bible Verse**

<sup>28</sup>*“Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”*

Luke 11:28 (ESV)

**Catechism**

The Third Commandment and Meaning --  
“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.”