

concordia
church



125th Anniversary

January 29, 2023

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Written by Gary Radtke

January 28th, 2018

1898...*One hundred twenty five years ago. William McKinley was serving as the 25th president of the United States. In April of that year, the United States declared war on Spain, beginning the Spanish-American war. The average annual income for working Americans was \$1,074.00 and a new house could be purchased for \$3,995.00. Illinois was celebrating its 80th year of statehood, having become the 21st state in 1818.*

It was a group of Swedish immigrant women in the neighborhood who formed a sewing society they named Sy Forening (Swedish for sewing society) on December 6, 1897. The records of this meeting are the earliest traces of our congregation found in the historical materials we have in our archives today. Reverend August Edgren, missionary pastor of Summerdale Mission (later to become Ebenezer Lutheran Church) was elected president, Mrs. Borg and Mrs. Forsman, vice-presidents, Mrs. Lindquist, secretary and Mrs. Baker, treasurer. The women of Sy Forening surely knew what they wanted to accomplish because the minutes of the second meeting state that the society decided to help the congregation defray their expenses, mainly the payment of rent for a meeting place.

On Saturday, January 29, 1898, it is recorded that forty-one men, women and children met at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Peter Blom, located on Lincoln Avenue. Also present was Reverend Edgren. The purpose of this meeting must have been discussed on an informal basis beforehand, because it was unanimously decided to formally establish the Swedish Evangelical Congregation in Cuyler, Chicago, (the first name of the congregation we now know as Concordia), and to make application to the Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod. The congregation decided to call Pastor Edgren to be their first pastor, Sunday School Superintendent, organist and choir director, for which he was paid \$10.00 per month. The little congregation had begun their journey in faith. They rented property on Cuyler Avenue near Damen Avenue. By June of 1900 enough funds had been raised and construction of a small frame chapel was underway. Finally there would be a worship space that the members could call their own.



ORIGINAL CHURCH BUILDING: CUYLER NEAR DAMEN

Prelude

Concertante for Trombone and Organ
“*Andante quasi Adagio e Allegro giojosoma maestoso*”
by Gustav Holst

Opening Address

Daniel Formeller, Church Council President

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**C: Merciful God, we praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit,
and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us in the gifts
and promises of baptism, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace,
and love. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all who have been baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God’s mission for the life of the world.

**C: We rejoice in the gift of our baptism.
Together we will give thanks and praise to God
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

P: May Almighty God,
who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
forgive us all our sins,
strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

ELW #873 "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart!"

1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,

your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
 Re - joice! Re - joice!

5 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

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

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God, you have promised through your Son to be with your church forever. We give you thanks for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your presence in our congregation. Increase in us the spirit of faith and love, and make our fellowship an example to all believers and to all nations. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen



Being Yourself

"Only by getting what we call "ourselves" out of the way, can we truly find ourselves. Only by surrendering ourselves to Another - to Christ beyond ourselves, the more truly ourselves we become. It is no good trying to "be myself" without Christ. The more I resist Him and try to live on my own, the more I become dominated by my own desires, my own whims, my own selfish aims, my own self-will. There must be a real giving up of the self. Then it is that Christ who in fact gives you a real personality. But you must not go to Him for the sake of that. As long as your own personality is what you are bothering about, you are not going to Him at all. The first step is to forget about the self altogether. Your real, new self, which is Christ's and also yours, won't come as long as you are looking for it. It will come when you are looking for Him. Look for yourself, and you will find in the long run only loneliness, despair, selfishness, hatred, ruin, and decay. But look for Christ, and you will find Him, and with Him everything else thrown in."

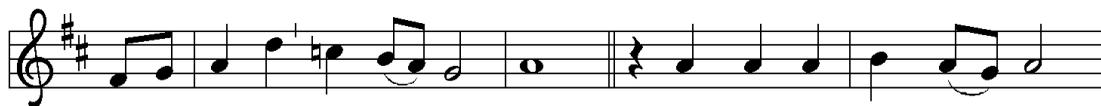
Historical quote from Concordia Weekly Visitor, Volume 1: No. 16 (February 19, 1950)

Hymn of Praise

Setting 3



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



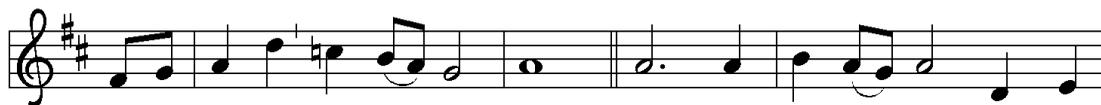
al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



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



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



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

...continued on next page

Hymn of Praise con't...



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



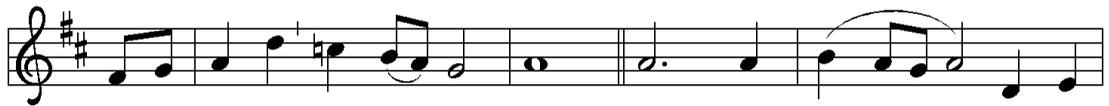
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

³“O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84

Second Reading

Romans 8:38-39

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

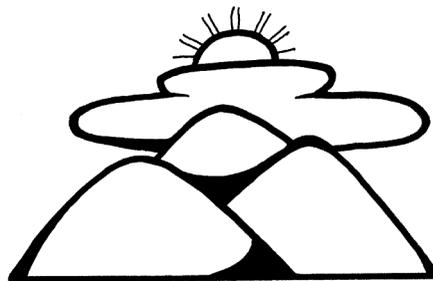
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia"



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



P: The Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Gospel Acclamation (repeat acclamation)

Sermon

Rev. Linnea Wilson

Hymn of the Day

ELW #576 "We All Are One in Mission"

- 1 We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission
compels us from above
to plan and work together
that all may know Christ's love.

- 2 We all are called for service,
to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are diff'rent;
our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others
with God's surprising grace,
so ev'ry folk and nation
may feel God's warm embrace.

- 3 Now let us be united,
and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel
for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.

Apostle's Creed

C: 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,
and 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

A: Remembering the Church, the world, and all those in need, let us offer our prayers to God. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Blessed be God, who gave us the light of the world and who desires that all people should come to know Christ's love and grace. Fill our hearts with your radiance and truth that we might walk as children of light. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: We give thanks to you for the members and the ministry of this congregation: for those who had the vision to begin the congregation, those who sustain its present ministry, and those who will carry its mission forward into the future.

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Lord God, through the ministry of your Son we have received grace upon grace. Bring light to those who dwell in darkness, joy to those in sorrow, hope to those in fear and despair. We pray especially for: Carol, Lola, Gary, Glen, Lupe, Galen, Mike, Harry, Lorraine, Dennis, Sandie, Gianna, Sandra, all those diagnosed with COVID-19, and for those we name before you or silently in our hearts *(pause for names)* ...Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Thanks be to God who calls us to witness to Christ's love in our community. We give you thanks for the ministries of our congregation, and the blessings of Concordia Church and Concordia Place. Use our gifts for those you have called us to serve. Lord, in your mercy,

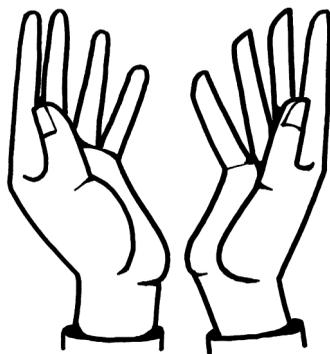
C: Hear our prayer.

A: God of light and truth, whose love knows no bounds in your Son, Jesus. Bring us to a deeper understanding of the Gospel, help us to accept the challenge of Christian living, and lead us to the joy of faith in the family of your church. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Lord our God, through Jesus Christ, for your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

C: Amen.



The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

You are invited to share the sign of peace with others.

The Offering

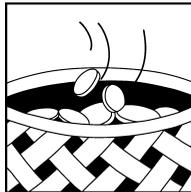
Offertory Prayer

A: God of wisdom,

C: As the magi offered gifts to the Christ child, receive the treasures of ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body that we may be a light to all nations; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory Anthem

"I'm Going Home" by Brent Alan Henderson



"Did you ever go into a strange church, sit in a back pew, and at the close of the service have the congregation rush by and almost over you, apparently without seeing you? Did you attend that church again? Contrast this with a church where a stranger is given the glad hand; not a formal touching of the finger tips, while the arm is held horizontal from the shoulder, but a real honest-to-goodness handshake; one that conveys a heartfelt, "glad you come, come again" feeling. One good dose removes that strange feeling, and a few applications will make the newcomer feel at home.: Let us shake!

-Historical quote by C.A.H.

Offertory Hymn

ELW #207 "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"



Thank-ful hearts and voi-c-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

The 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 our thanks and praise.

P: We give you thanks, Father,
through Jesus Christ,
your beloved Son,
whom you sent
in this end of the ages
to save and redeem us
and to proclaim to us your will.
He is your Word,
inseparable from you.
Through him
you created all things,
and in him you take delight.
He is your Word,
sent from heaven
to a virgin's womb.
He there took on our nature
and our lot and
was shown forth as your Son,
born of the Holy Spirit
and of the virgin Mary.
It is he, our Lord Jesus,
who fulfilled all your will
and won for you a holy people;
he stretched out his hands
in suffering
in order to free from suffering
those who trust you.
It is he who,
handed over to a death
he freely accepted,
in order to destroy death,
to break the bonds
of the evil one,
to crush hell underfoot,
to give light to the righteous,
to establish his covenant
and to show forth
the resurrection,

taking bread and
giving thanks to you, said:
Take and eat;
this is my body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
In the same way he took the cup,
gave thanks, and
gave it for all to drink, saying:
This is my blood
poured out for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, then,
his death and resurrection,
we lift this bread and cup
before you,
giving you thanks that
you have made us worthy
to stand before you
and to serve you
as your priestly people.
And we ask you:
Send your spirit
upon these gifts of your church;
gather into one
all who share
this bread and wine;
fill us with your holy spirit
to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise
and glorify you
through your Son, Jesus Christ.
Through him
all glory and honor are yours,
Almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church
both now and forever.

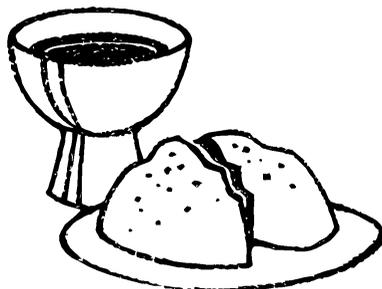
C: Amen

C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Communion Invitation

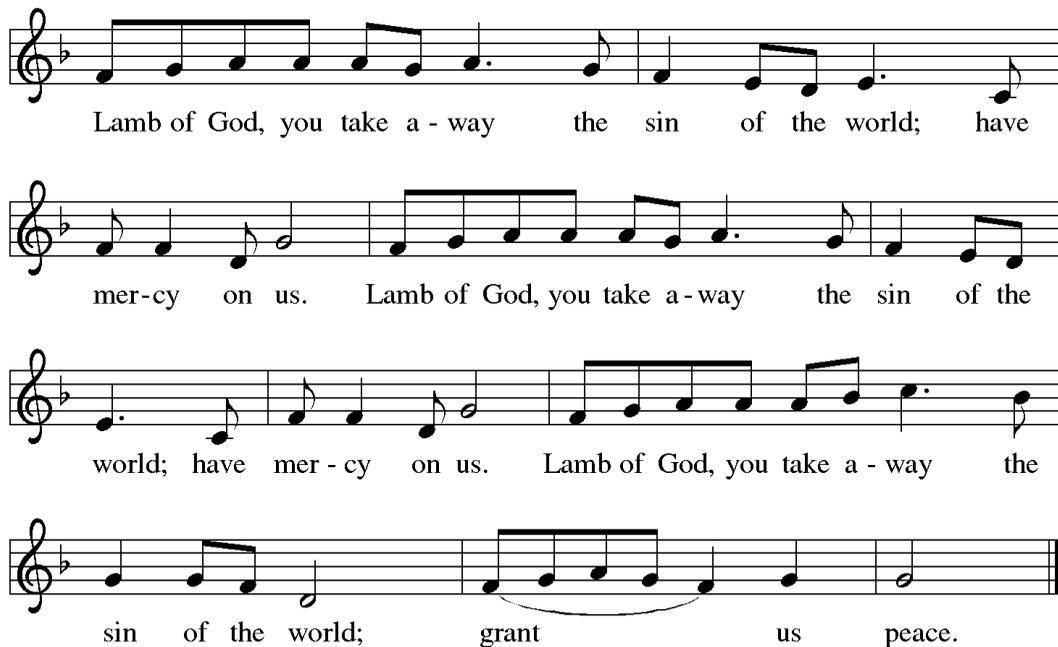
We invite all who are baptized in Christ to come forward for communion. All are welcome at the Lord's table. Parents of young children are asked to let the pastor know if they want their child to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion is served by continuous table around the altar, and you are asked to take a place as openings appear.



Communion Hymn

"Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Anthem

"Awake the Trumpet's Lofty Sound"
by George F. Handel

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

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: Almighty God, we give you thanks that you have fed us with this heavenly food. In your grace and by your Spirit, help us to be what we celebrate, the body of Christ in the world. Send us out, renewed by this sacramental meal, to do the work you have given us to do; to witness for Christ, to love you with singleness of heart, and to serve you with clarity of purpose; though Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

ELW #414 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
 above are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
 and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Announcements

Blessing and Dismissal

P: Go forth in peace and with the courage of faith.

Love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.

C: Amen.

P: Whatever you do in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God through him.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope fill you with joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Postlude

Concerto in the Italian Style "Presto"
from *Clavierübung*

ANNUAL MEETING : November 10, 1949

The Annual Meeting of the Concordia Congregation will be held on Thursday evening, November 10, at 8:00 P.M. in the Church Chapel. This concerns the business of God's Kingdom, and every member should be concerned. No trivial matters will be discussed, for the business of the Christian Church is the most important business there is."

-Historical quote from November 6, 1949

Today's Worship Leaders

Pastors: Rev. Nicholas Zook &

Rev. Linnea Wilson

Deacon: Jennifer Phillips &

Christina Formeller

Lectors: Mary-Ann Lupa

Ushers: Arlene Calderone

Organist: Paul Dykstra

Song leaders: Jade Ferrell

Avery Sujkowski

Musicians: Matt Flanagan &

Quincy Erickson

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Concordia's Anniversary Worship & Potluck—TODAY!

Join us after worship today in the gym for a special anniversary potluck! The more the merrier!

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Support the **ministries of Concordia Church** through your offerings. There are multiple ways for you to give:

- 1) Mobile: Text 'Concordia' to 73256 and follow the link or scan the QR code here
- 2) Online: Visit www.onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
- 3) Via cash or check left in the offering plate or mailed to the church at:

3855 N Seeley Ave
Chicago, IL 60618





Will you be our valentine?

St. Valentine's Day

Concert feat. Très Belle
with Pianist Paul Dykstra

February 11 - 7:30 PM



General:

\$15

VIP Reception:

\$35

Concordia Church
3855 N. Seeley

VIP tickets earn preferred seating and an invitation to a private reception with the artists following the concert. Get your tickets today by visiting concordiafaith.org/concerts!

Copyright Information:

Below is a list of all the songs that we are using in today's liturgy with their copy right information located with them.

Opening Hymn

ELW #720 "*We Are Called*"

Text: David Haas, b. 1957
Music: David Haas
Text and music © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

Hymn of Praise

Setting 3

Gospel Acclamation

"*Alleluia*" Setting 3

Hymn of the Day

ELW #576 "*We All Are One in Mission*"

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Offertory Hymn

ELW #207 "*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*"

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Communion Hymn

"*Lamb of God*" Setting 3

Closing Hymn

ELW #414 "*Holy God, We Praise Your Name*"

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900
Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

Notes on the Liturgy:

1. All liturgical music is from ELW, Setting 4
2. The Liturgy is printed from **The Evangelical Lutheran Worship** and is used with permission.
3. The offertory prayer, introduction to the prayers and conclusion are taken from **Sundays and Seasons**, Augsburg Fortress, 2019, and used with permission: license number 23952.
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Love God. Love Your Neighbor.

www.concordiafaith.org

773-281-1225

Concordia on Seeley

3855 N. Seeley

Sunday mornings:

10:00am Worship (In-person & virtual options)

Join the 10:00am livestream on Sunday mornings or view recordings of our past services on our YouTube channel.



Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

Holy Communion happens at every service and is open to all baptized.

The restroom is located in the gym; exit the sanctuary through the left door behind the altar and follow the hallway down the stairs.

Concordia Church continues to follow Chicago Department of Health and CDC guidelines to ensure appropriate protocols are in place for the health and safety of our worshippers, leaders, and staff. Please visit www.concordiafaith.org for the latest updates.

Questions? Contact Desirae, Parish Admin, at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org

Church Staff Contact Information



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773-463-1600 ex. 402



Desirae Contreras, Parish Administrator
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Marisa Buchheit, Music Director
mbuchheit@concordiafaith.org



Paul Dykstra, Organist & Choir Director
pdykstra@concordiafaith.org



Matt Flanagan, Audio/Visual Engineer
mflanagan@concordiafaith.org



David Nakazono, Audio/Visual Engineer
nakazonomusic@gmail.com