

concordia
church



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023



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

Prelude

“Lead On, O King Eternal”

by Henry T Smart, arr. Marianne Kim

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.**

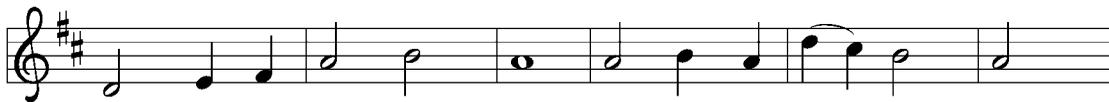
P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all who have been baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with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

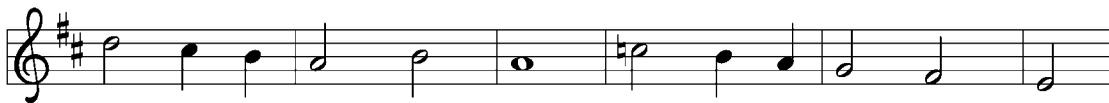
ELW #804 "Come Down, O Love Divine"



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
 2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
 shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
 no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

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, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen



A Christian Must

Worship is a must in a Christian life. Simply because there can be no Christian life without it.

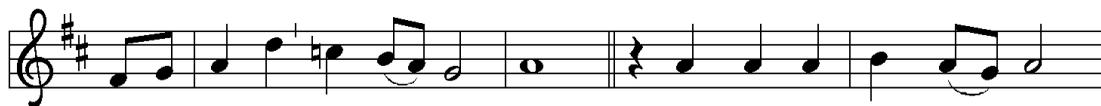
—Historical quote from June 28, 1953

Hymn of Praise

Setting 3



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



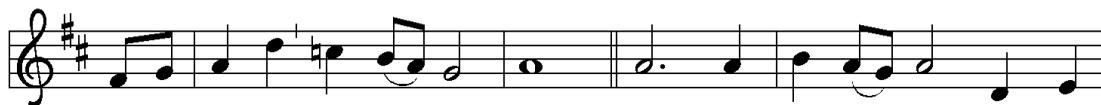
al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



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

First Reading

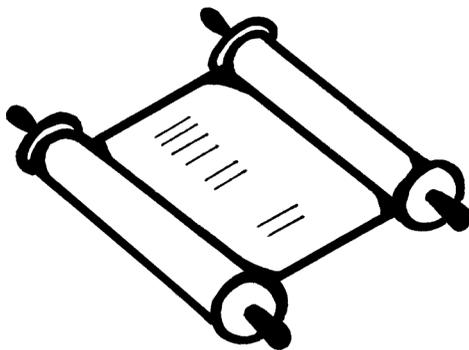
Deuteronomy 30:15-20

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:1-8



Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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 5:21-37

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’

²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.

³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

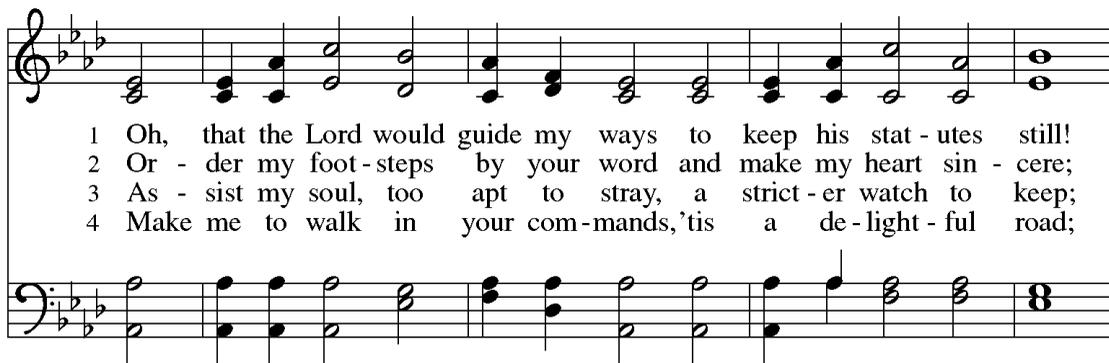
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Gospel Acclamation (repeat acclamation)

Sermon

Rev. Nicholas Zook

Hymn of the Day ELW #772 "O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

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: 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: Lola, Gary, Glen, Lupe, Galen, Mike, Harry, Lorraine, Dennis, Sandie, Gianna, Sandra, Marilyn, Bob, family of Virgil, family of Roman, family of Carol, 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 Anthem

“My Soul’s Been Anchored in the Lord”

by Florence Price

Offertory Prayer

A: God of wisdom,

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of all creation and from whom all good gifts come. You have blessed us with the gifts of ourselves, our time and all that we possess. For your abundant grace we give you thanks and praise. May these gifts be signs of your love as we use them in serving others, we pray through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen

“The first steps to happiness are the church steps”

—Historical quote from Dec 6, 1953

Offertory Hymn

ELW #207 "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"



Thank-ful hearts and voi-ces 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.

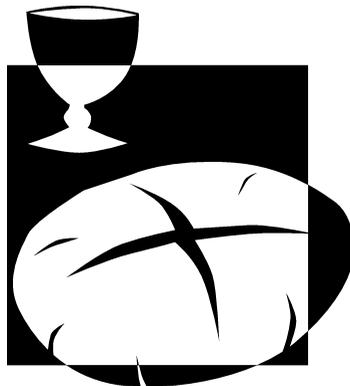
C: Amen

**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

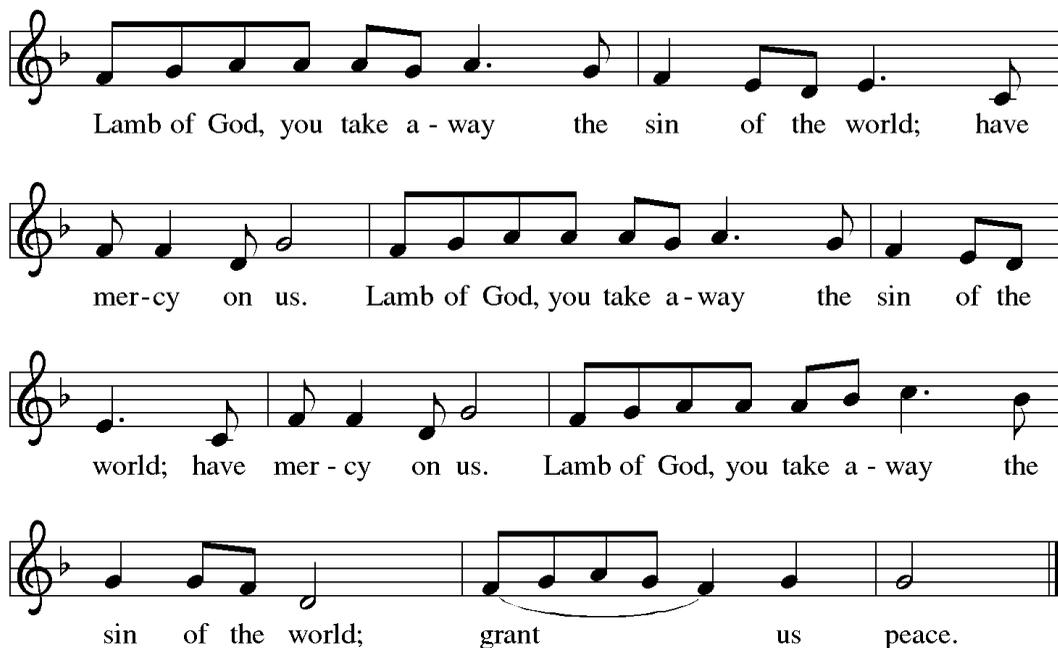
We invite all who are baptized in Christ to come forward for communion. All are welcome at the Lord's table. Parents of young children are asked to let the pastor know if they want their child to receive communion or a blessing.

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.

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

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: God of glory, in this sacrament you unite us in the body of your Son. May we who have been guests at this table grow in love for one another, that through us your light may shine in all the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

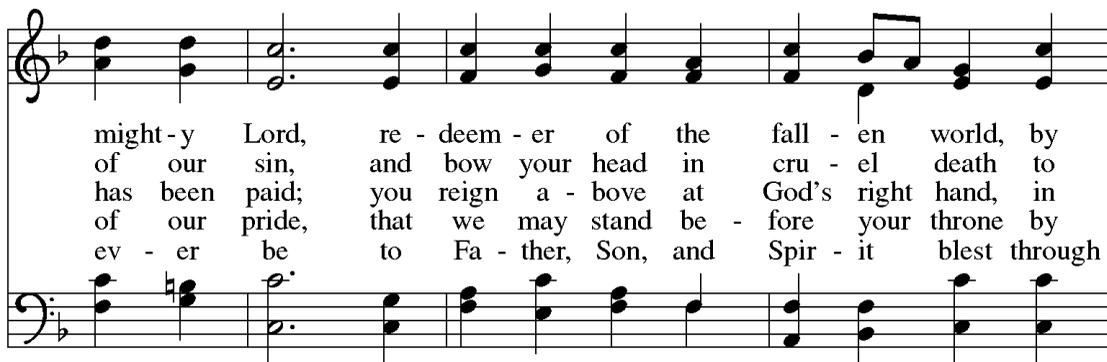
Closing Hymn

ELW #604 "O Christ, Our Hope"

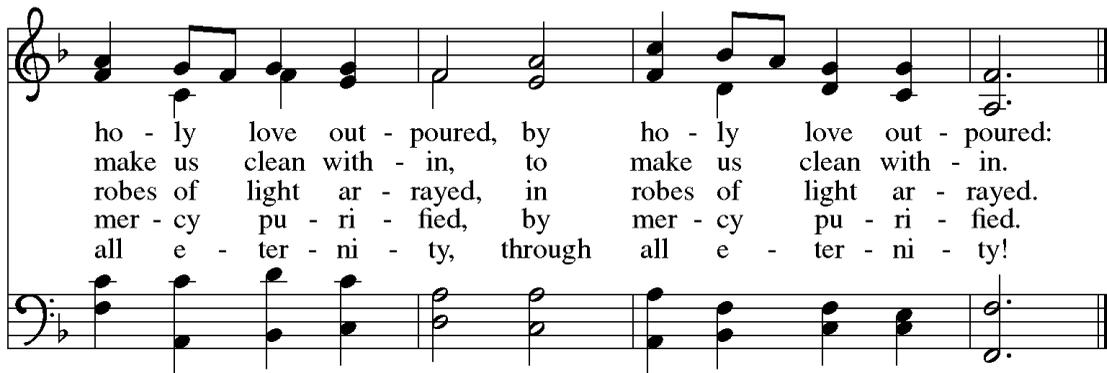
Verses 1, 3, 5



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's
 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som
 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - veil to purge us
 5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry



might - y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
 of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
 has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
 of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
 ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
 make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
 robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
 mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
 all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Announcements

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son (+), and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem” by J.H. Maunder
arr. for Organ by Dorothy Thompson Asman

Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Nicholas Zook

Organist: Paul Dykstra

Deacon: Jennifer Phillips

Song leaders: Jade Ferrell &

Lectors: Marne Turner & Leanne Morris

Benjamin Burney

Usher: Kim Baratta & Guenter Seidel

Lenten Services

Ash Wednesday service will be held on February 22nd at 7:00pm and will include the imposition of ashes. Pastor Zook will also be offering imposition of ashes that morning in the Seeley sanctuary from 7:00-9:00am for anyone who would like to receive the rite earlier in the day.

Lenten services follow each Sunday at 10am from February 26th through March 26th.

Transfiguration Sunday February 19th

Farewell Alleluia & Mardi Gras Luncheon after worship in the Gym

Transfiguration Sunday is February 19th. After worship, we will assemble outdoors to burn last year's Palms for Ashes, and sing "Alleluia" farewell. Bring your palms from last year for the fire and then go to the gym for a Mardi Gras Luncheon celebration and feasting event before the fast of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (February 22nd).

Lent is a time of reflection and subdued fasting in preparation for Easter. We symbolize that with a farewell to singing the joyous "Alleluia" and giving up a favorite treat during Lent. Join us for a Mardi Gras Luncheon on Sunday, February 19th. Everyone is invited to bring a favorite dessert to share. A light luncheon of sandwiches and salad will be provided. Register online at www.concordiafaith.org or put your name on the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary at church on Sundays.

.....

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





invites all types of smarty-pants to our FUNdraiser



Friday, March 3

7pm @ 3855 N. Seeley Gym

\$15/Person OR \$100/Team of 8

Individual Players will be matched up to form teams

Pre-registration required by Feb. 26th
concordiafaith.org/trivia

BYOB—Light snacks provided or bring your own

All proceeds benefit the Common Pantry &
'The Cupboard' Food Pantry at Swedish Covenant Hospital



Want to join in the fun and support another way?
Our 50/50 raffle is live!

\$5 for 5 tickets

\$10 for 15 tickets

Best value! \$25 for 50 tickets

Register for Trivia and buy raffle tickets at concordiafaith.org/trivia

Questions? Contact Desirae at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org



A Concordia family of ministries serving people and communities
concordiaministries.org | concordiafaith.org

Carol Ann Ressmeyer

July 27, 1945 - February 9, 2023



Carol Ann Ressmeyer, age 77, passed away peacefully on February 9, 2023 after a long illness.

She was born July 27, 1945 in the Bronx borough of New York City to the late Henry William Ressmeyer and Majorie Catherine (Riethmiller) Ressmeyer.

Carol was preceded in death by her twin brother Richard Henry Ressmeyer.

Carol attended Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY where she graduated in 1967 with a degree in English. She worked as an English teacher in upstate New York before moving to Chicago in 1970 where she worked at HHS (Health and Human Services).

She was an active member of Concordia Lutheran Church and in the church's ministry in the community. She served on the Church Council, numerous volunteers and leadership roles in church and community outreach, such as the Friendly Visitor driver for neighborhood seniors at the Concordia Place, and she was an Assisting Minister for worship serving as a Deacon for 35 years. Through the church, she met a number of long time friends and was a founding member of a book club that is still going strong some 40 years later.

In addition to reading, Carol enjoyed movies and the theater. She volunteered with The Saints, an organization for the performing arts in Chicago where she as an usher and enjoyed a wide variety of productions over the years.

Carol also volunteered her time helping elderly community members by driving them to doctors appointments and the grocery store.

Carol is survived by her nieces Erika Ruth Ogedegbe, Margaret Carol Ressmeyer, Caitlin Virtue Ressmeyer, her grand niece Jolomi Ogedegbe and grand nephews Bawo Ogedegbe and Kayode Ogedegbe.

Visitation for the family will be held at Concordia Lutheran Church on Wednesday, February 15th at 4:00pm. A Memorial Service will follow at 7:00pm.

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.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

ELW #804 "Come Down, O Love Divine"

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890
Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Music from *The English Hymnal*, outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

Hymn of Praise

Setting 3

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia" Setting 3

Hymn of the Day

ELW #772 "O, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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 #604 "O Christ, Our Hope"

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

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.
4. [Liturgy Hymns & Text](#) are used by permission, of OneLicense: license number A-704728, Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI): license number 2760294, and Augsburg Fortress license number 23952.

Church Staff Contact Information



Rev. Nicholas Zook, Pastor
nzook@concordiafaith.org
773-281-1225



Jennifer Phillips, Director of Mission Development
jphillips@concordiafaith.org
773-463-1600 ex. 402



Desirae Contreras, Parish Administrator
dcontreras@concordiafaith.org
773-281-1225



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