

# Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



## Concordia Lutheran Church



40 Pitkin Street  
Manchester, Connecticut, 06040

### Concordia's WHY/Purpose Statement

To be a welcoming and inviting community empowered by the Word of God;  
So that we may work for social justice and exhibit compassion for all

**September 1, 2024**

# NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

Marty Haugen

**Prelude:** *Prelude and Fugue in G Minor* - Dietrich Buxtehude *John Anderson, Organist*

**Welcome.**

*All stand as able.*

## **Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

*Presider:* If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Please Kneel as you are able. Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

*Presider:* Most merciful God,

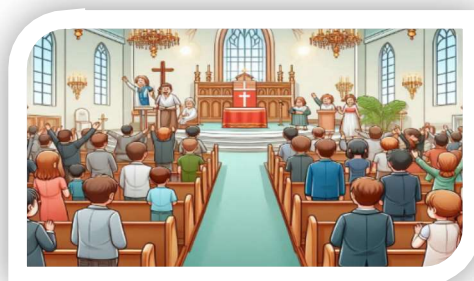
*Congregation:* **have mercy on us.**

**All: We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

*Presider:* With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin (+) and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

*Congregation:* **Thanks be to God!**

*All stand as able.*



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

*Congregation:* **And also with you.**

## KYRIE

*Assistant:* In peace, in peace,

**Refrain**

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have  
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*

Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*

God. A - men.

# NOW THE FEAST

## Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

## Verse 1

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of  
God.

*to Refrain*

**Verse 2**  
*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and  
 might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
 for ev - er. *to Refrain*

**Verse 3**  
*Congregation:*

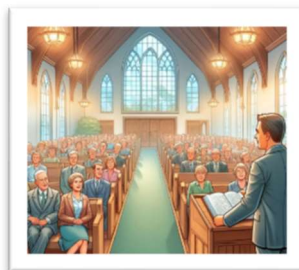
3. For God has come to dwell with us, to  
 make us peo - ple of God; to make  
 all things new. *to Refrain*

*Presider:* Let us pray

### **Prayer of the Day**

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

*All are seated.*



## First Lesson: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

*The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.*

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a

god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm: Psalm 15



### Tone



*Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? (Ps. 15:1)*

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,  
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue,  
they do no evil | to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown. **R**

## Second Lesson: James 1:17-27

*The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.*

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

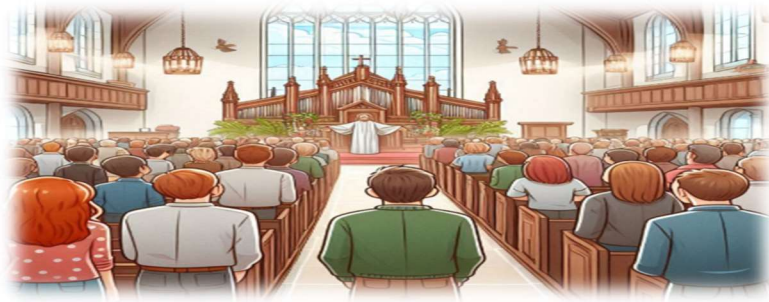
<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive

themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.**

*All stand as able.*



## GOSPEL VERSE

*Congregation:*

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

*Optional Repeat*

### The Gospel Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me; <sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' <sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

<sup>21</sup>"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**



*All are seated.*



**Sermon**

Reverend Gloria Connery

*All stand as able.*



**Hymn of the Day**

*Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil*

ELW 512

**Apostle's Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of creation, you named humans as co-creators with you. Where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Bring relief and justice to people and places suffering from climate catastrophe. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Sovereign God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Lead those in authority to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from

chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers, therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to our hearts especially those in our prayer list. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions and establish fair wages so that all people may thrive. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Comforting God, console us as we mourn our departed. We hold fast to the promise that death has been defeated by our Savior Jesus Christ. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## Exchange of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*All are seated.*



## Offertory Hymn

### As the Grains of Wheat



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,

2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*Refrain*



*All stand as able.*

## Offertory Prayer

*Assistant:* Let us pray.

*Assistant:* Merciful God,

***Congregation:*** everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Presider: Congregation:

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Congregation:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.



# Proper Preface

*Freely*

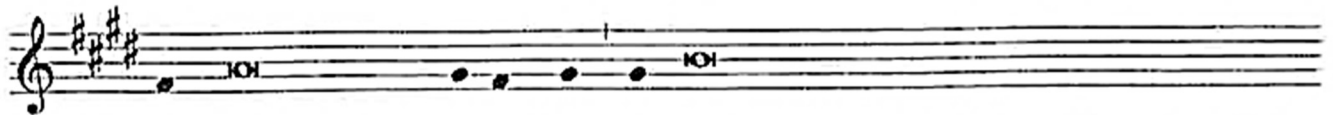
*Presider:*



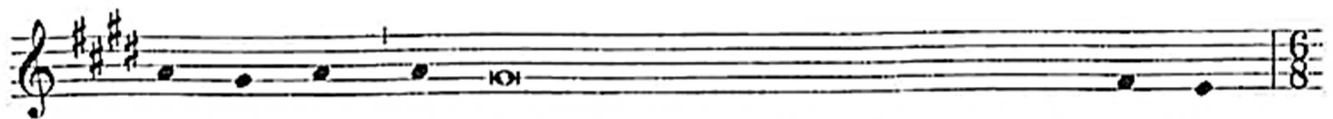
It is our duty and de - light that we should everywhere and always offer



thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...



who calls us to follow his way of humble service and love, and so with the church on earth, all creation and the



host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - end - ing

*in rhythm*

*To Holy, Holy*



hymn:



# HOLY

*Congregation:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!



Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*Presider:* You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God;  
everything is filled with your glory.

We give thanks for your promise and presence which have  
sustained the faithful in this and every generation.

Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary,  
who in word and deed announced your gentle  
rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal,  
our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples saying;

Take and eat; this is my body given for you.,  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup,  
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his command to love one another,  
his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension,  
we pray for his coming again, even as we cry:

*Presider:*

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -

*Congregation:*

men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord

Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

*Presider:* Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
 that all of your promises  
 may come to us  
 and your whole creation.

*Presider:*

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A -

*Congregation:*

men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly

Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

*Presider:* This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.

*Congregation:*

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the  
u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is  
yours, O God, now and for ev - er.  
A - men.

## Lord's Prayer

With hearts set on God's kingdom and hands open to serve our neighbor, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

<b>Our Father in Heaven,</b>	<b>As we forgive those</b>
<b>Hallowed be your name,</b>	<b>Who sin against us.</b>
<b>Your kingdom come,</b>	<b>Save us from the time of trial</b>
<b>Your will be done,</b>	<b>And deliver us from evil.</b>
<b>On earth as it is in heaven.</b>	<b>For the kingdom, the power</b>
<b>Give us today our daily bread.</b>	<b>And the glory are yours,</b>
<b>Forgive us our sins</b>	<b>Now and forever,</b>
	<b>Amen.</b>

## Invitation


Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!



*All are seated.*


## LAMB OF GOD

*Congregation:*                      *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God,                      you take a - way the sin of                      the  
you break the chains of ha - tred                      and  
you are the way of jus - tice                      and  
you are the way of mer - cy                      and

*Congregation:*



world:                      have mer - cy on us,                      mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

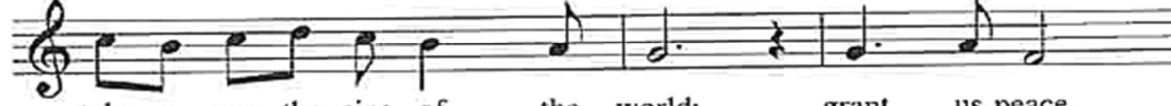
**Final Stanza**

*Congregation or Assistant:*



mer - cy                      on                      us.                      Lamb of God,                      you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sins of                      the world;                      grant                      us peace,  
grant                      us peace,                      grant                      us                      peace.

**Communion Hymn**

*O God, My Faithful God*

ELW 806

*All stand as able.*

### Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

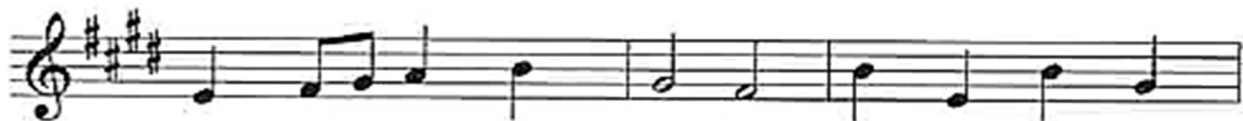
**Amen.**

# THANKS BE TO YOU

*Congregation:*



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your



love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of



life with us. 3. Praise to you, O



God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!



Rais-ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

## Post Communion Prayer

Holy God,  
you have welcomed us to this meal  
and fed us with dignity at your table.  
Send us now to welcome others  
and to be at peace with one another,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**


## Blessing

*Presider:*



May God bless us and keep us.  
May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.  
May God look on us with favor and + give us peace.

*Congregation:*



A - men.



Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Processional in D Major - David N Johnson John Anderson, Organist

+++ To God Be the Glory +++

+++++

Serving in Worship Today

Presiding: Reverend Gloria Connery Assisting Minister(s): Mark Winzler
Usher: Carol Burnett David Smith
Organist: John Anderson

+++++

B R I E F A N N O U N C E M E N T S

- The Wall That Heals will be at Charter Oak Park in Manchester from September 19 - 22, please check out the flyer for more details!
Please check out the flyers in the last pages for upcoming community events!

DAILY READINGS



Table with 4 columns: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, September 8, Lectionary 23. It lists Bible readings for each day.

NOTES: The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Selected liturgical texts from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License.

## Prayers of the Community



Contact parish office for Prayer requests. Names will be held in prayer for 1 month, unless otherwise requested. (\*Member of Concordia) *(Request by Member)* ***(New Intention)***  
*Those who are sick or in any need,*

\*Nancy Lynn Knauff *(As she grieves her mother's passing)*, Family of Zachary Clapp (\*David Beauregard), Family of David Kaufman (as they grieve his loss, a very dear friend of \*Lanie Turner), Family of \*Lois Feder *(as they grieve her loss)*, \*Joanne Murphy, \*Dan Burnett *(recovering)*, Kaushik (David S.), Yolanda (Lucy's sister), Elaine Arace (Hedberg's friend who suffered serious fall), *all those across the country who have suffered loss through gun violence*, Marti Barclay (Ruth S.), \*Robert Feder, Sandy (friend of Dave S.), Max (Elaine B.), Rebecca (Elaine B.), Sam Sirois, Diane Decarli (friends of Joanne M.), Cori Mackey, Ralph Sullivan (Laura Hart's father), Ava (Wendy D.), Linda Longtin Watson (Jane C.), Juliette Theroux (friend of Joanne M.), Beverly Spikers (John C.), Twylar Williams (friend of Joanne M.), Matilda Keinath (7-year-old daughter of Hedbergs' friend who is undergoing treatment for brain tumor), Kenneth Wall (friend of the Hedbergs who is undergoing treatment for cancer), Alicia and Erika (friends of Ruthie L.) who have significant health issues, \*Linda Lange.

For Concordia's ongoing transition process.

### *The Intentions of this Community:*

- For all affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Concordia Nursery School Students and their families
- The work of MACC
- For our Cub Scout Pack and Scout Troop
- For Licensed Lay Minister Beatrice Luciano and Ministerio Nueva Creación
- For Pr. Simpson and the people of New Horizons
- For our friends at Emanuel Lutheran and former members of St. Mary's now merged with St. John's Episcopal Church (Vernon)

## Concordia Lutheran Church

Reverend **Rolf Hedberg**, *Transitional Pastor*

Mrs. **Margie Gallagher**, *Parish Administrator*



40 Pitkin Street, Manchester, CT 06040



(860)649-5311



[office@concordiamanchester.org](mailto:office@concordiamanchester.org)



[www.concordiamanchester.org](http://www.concordiamanchester.org)

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



# Community Upcoming Events



## Manchester Road Race



Registration for the 88th Manchester Road Race will begin on September 1st! The world-famous race, one of America's largest and most popular turkey trots, will be held on Thanksgiving Day (November 28, 2024) at 10 a.m.

It is run on a 4.737-mile loop course through Manchester's central streets that starts and finishes on Main Street, in front of St. James Church. The Committee has also announced that the non-profit Lutz Children's Museum in Manchester will be the beneficiary this November of the road race's annual "Honors Club" Program.



## Holiday Schedule

Town Offices will be closed on Monday Sept. 2nd for the Labor Day holiday. Trash will not be collected Monday, and will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week. The Manchester Public Library will be closed 9-1pm and open 1-5pm on Friday August 30th, 2024. The library will be closed Saturday August 31st and Monday September 2nd, 2024. The Sprayground remains open through Labor Day, 10am-8pm daily.

***We encourage everyone to attend!***

## Transition Meeting

*Facilitated by:*  
**Associates to the Bishop**  
**Pastor Sara Anderson**  
**Pastor Maria Hammons**

**Sunday, September 15**  
**Immediately after Worship**  
**Kaiser Hall**

### The Wall That Heals



A three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial along with a mobile Education Center, is coming to Manchester, CT on September 19- 22 at Charter Oak Park and will be open 24 hours a day and **free** to the public.

The Wall That Heals honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed forces in the Vietnam War and it bears the names of the 58,281 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. How You Can Help: we need your support to make it success!

1. **Sponsor or In-Kind Donations:** Your sponsorship or in-kind donations will help us bring this tribute to our community; please email: [promotionsTWTH@manchesterelks.org](mailto:promotionsTWTH@manchesterelks.org)
  2. **Volunteer:** We need [volunteers](#) for various roles.
  3. **Motorcycle Escort:** We are organizing a [motorcycle escort](#) to accompany. The Wall That Heals to Manchester. If you or your organization would like to participate, please let us know.
- You can also commemorate the visit of The Wall That Heals by purchasing a challenge coin, tee shirt or cap, available at the Town Hall Customer Service & Information Center, 860-647-5235.

## WALK OR DONATE

### 7th annual Fill The Freezer

to benefit Walk & Fundraiser

**MACC CHARITIES**



Thursday, September 12th, 2024 | Urban Lodge | 4:30PM



**When:** September 21<sup>st</sup>, More Details to Follow!

This year the festival will be held at Charter Oak Park entrance on Spruce Street. More information will be sent out.

### Farmers Market at Forest St.



Every Saturday rain or shine through October 26th.

Fresh local fruits, vegetables, flowers, herbs, honey etc. WIC Coupons accepted.

Town parking lot at corner of Main St. and Forest St., Manchester 8:00am-12:00pm.

