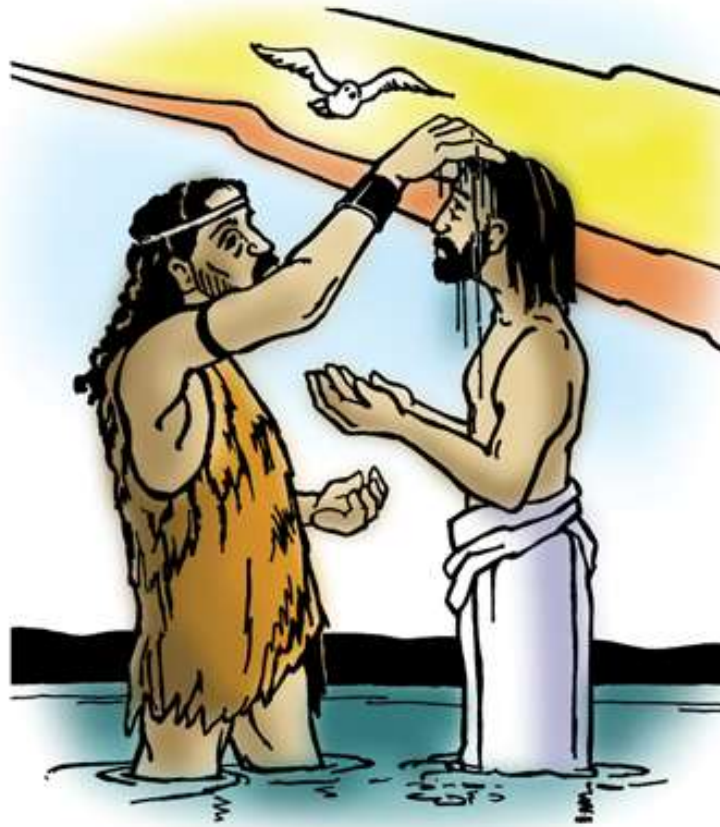


# Baptism of Our Lord



## 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

**January 12, 2025**

**Prelude:** *Christ our Lord to Jordan Came* - Bach, Buxtehude

*John Anderson, Organist*

## **Welcome**

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
our creator,  
our protector,  
our wellspring of life.

**Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act  
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
we resist your call to oppose injustice;  
we give in to scarcity and fear;  
we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults  
and release us from their grasp.**

**Show us your loving kindness.**

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,  
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

**Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God.

**Amen.**

## **Gathering Hymn**

*Shall We Gather at the River*

ELW 423

## **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God.

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

# Gloria



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## Word

### First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

*Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.*

<sup>1</sup> But now thus says the LORD,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are  
mine.  
<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I  
will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not  
overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not  
be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
<sup>3</sup> For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup> Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.  
<sup>5</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the  
east,  
and from the west I will gather you;  
<sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, "Give them up,"  
and to the south, "Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the  
earth—  
<sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

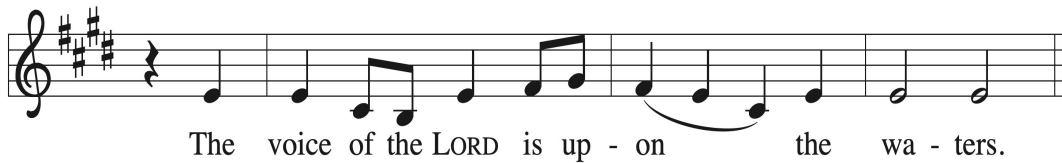
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

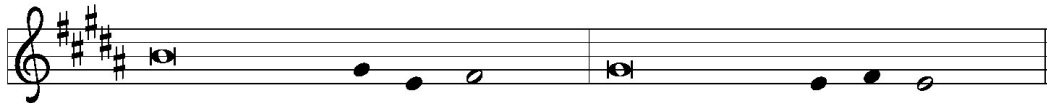


**Psalm:**

**Psalm 29**



**Tone**



<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and  
strength.

<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due  
God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of  
holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the  
waters; the God of | glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful  
voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of  
splendor. R**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar  
trees;  
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of  
Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup> **the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a  
calf,**

**and Mount Hermon like a | young  
wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> The voice | of the LORD  
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup> **The voice of the LORD | shakes the  
wilderness;**

**the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of  
Kadesh. R**

<sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the oak  
trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.  
And in the temple of the LORD all  
are | crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove  
the flood;**

**the LORD sits enthroned as king  
for- | evermore.**

<sup>11</sup> O LORD, give strength | to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of  
peace. R

**Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17**

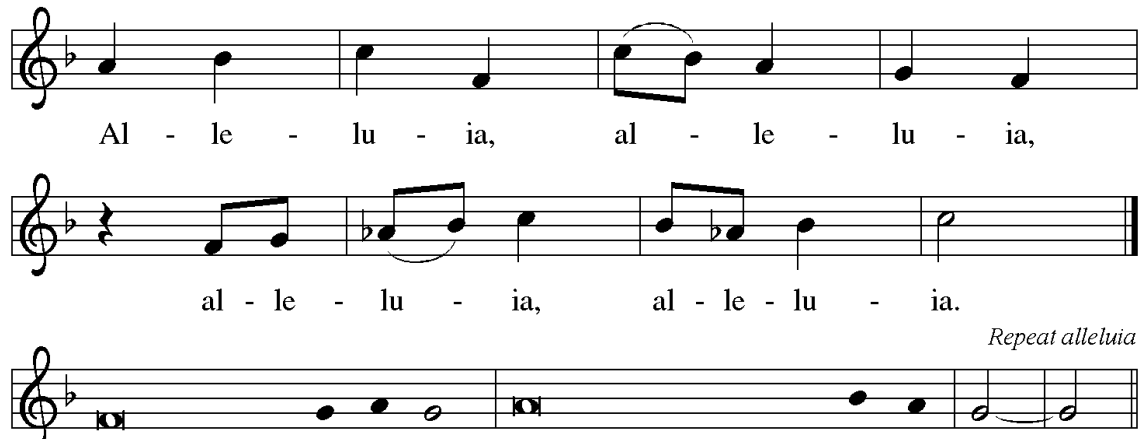
*Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.*

<sup>14</sup> Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup> The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup> (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

*All Stand as able.*

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved,\* with whom I am well pleased."

## Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

*The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.....

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

### Praise to you, O Christ.

*All are seated.*



*All Stand as able.*

**Hymn of the Day**

*Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*

ELW 304

### **Renewal of Baptismal Promises**

On this festival day, when we remember the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, Let us renew the promises made at our own baptism, asking that God renew us, and help us to grow into these promises, day by day.

And so, I ask of you,

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,  
our Lord.**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the

Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**



## Prayers of Intercession

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery especially those in our prayer list. Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

**Amen.**

## Exchange of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**



*All are seated.*



# Meal

## Offertory Hymn

*What Feast of Love*

ELW 487

*All Stand as able.*

## Offertory Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,  
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:  
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,  
now and always.

**Amen.**

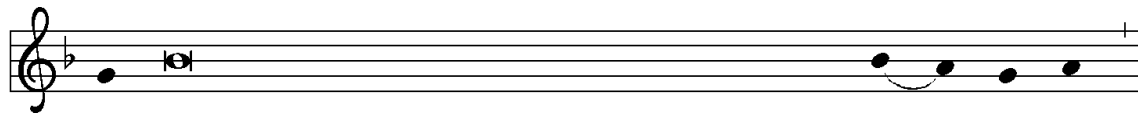
## Dialogue



## Proper Preface



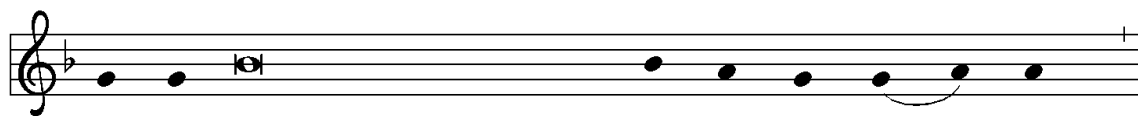
It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



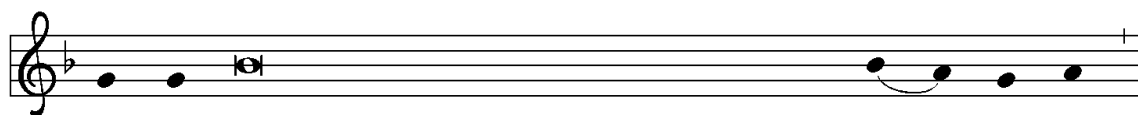
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



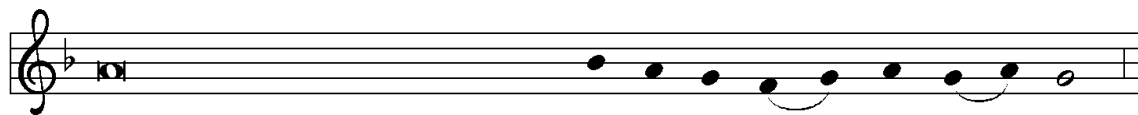
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.



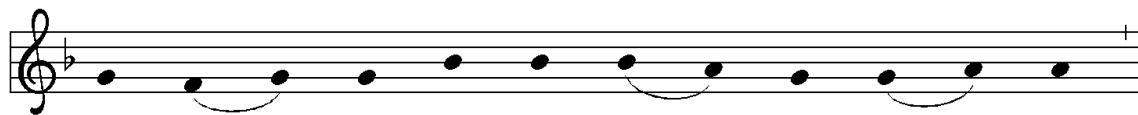
By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all na - tions;



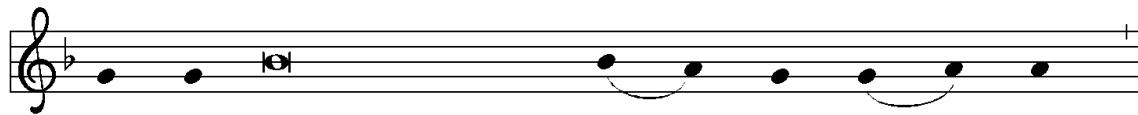
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your be - lov - ed Son,



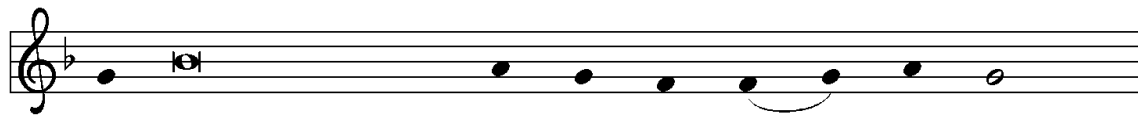
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he re - vealed your glo - ry.



And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,



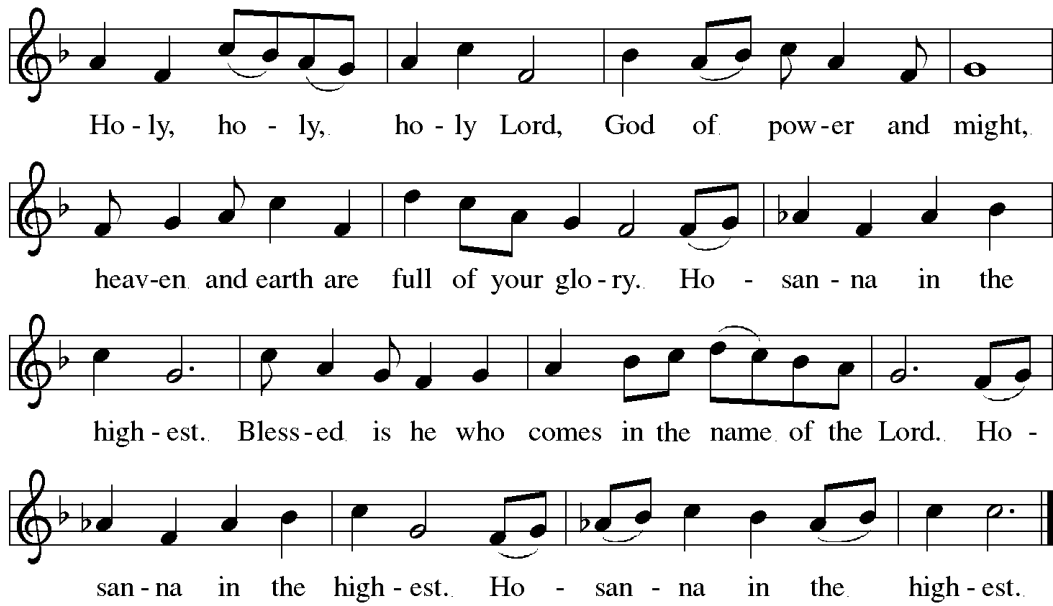
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,



we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:



## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and  
suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
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.

Again, 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, therefore, his death,  
resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory as we proclaim  
the mystery of faith.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O  
Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this  
heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus

Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the  
Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.



A - men, a - men. A - men, 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.

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.

## Invitation

The joy of the Lord is our strength.  
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

*All are seated.*

## The 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

*Wade in the Water*

ELW 459

## The Communion

*All stand as able.*

## **Blessing after Communion**

The Spirit of the triune God

✠ bless you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

**Amen.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

Nourishing God,  
at this table you have refreshed us  
with holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service,  
and send us out to embody your good news  
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray,

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

May God the Father,  
who led the wise men by the shining of a star  
to find the Christ, the Light from Light,  
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the  
Lord.

**Amen.**

May God the Son,  
who turned water into wine at the wedding  
feast at Cana,  
transform your lives and make glad your  
hearts.

**Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit,  
who came upon the beloved Son  
at his baptism in the river Jordan,  
pour out his gifts on you  
who have come to the waters of new birth.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **Sending**

### **Sending Hymn**

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

ELW 543

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized* - Johann Sebastian Bach *John Anderson, Organist*

**++ To God Be the Glory ++**

### **Serving in Worship today:**

The Rev. Dr. Rolf Hedberg

**Ushers:** Tina Sollinger-Ruggerio

**Organist:** John Anderson

**Assisting Minister(s):** Mark Winzler

Wendy Donagher

**Brief Announcements -**

The Fastnacht Dinner is back! See details in the last page of this bulletin.

\*\*\*\*\***Concordia Calendar**\*\*\*\*\*

**Save the Dates:  
Upcoming Meetings**

Information about each of these meetings will be  
communicated in writing beforehand.

**Sunday, January 19**

11:30 a.m.  
Kaiser Hall

Associate to the Bishop Pastor Maria Hammons  
**Consensus Poll on Option to Pursue**

**Sunday, February 9**

11:30 a.m.  
Kaiser Hall

**Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting  
(Finance/Budget)**

**Sunday, March 9**

11:30 a.m.  
Kaiser Hall

Associate to the Bishop Pastor Maria Hammons  
**Special Congregational Meeting to Vote on Final Option**

\*\*\*\*\*



***Daily Readings***

**January 13 - 19**

<b><u>Monday</u></b>	<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>	<b><u>Thursday</u></b>
Psalm 106:1-12 Judges 4:1-16 Ephesians 6:10-17	Psalm 106:1-12 Judges 5:12-21 1 John 5:13-21	Psalm 106:1-12 Numbers 27:1-11 Luke 11:33-36	Psalm 36:5-10 Jeremiah 3:1-5 Acts 8:18-24
<b><u>Friday</u></b>	<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	<b><i>Sunday, January 19, Second Sunday after Epiphany</i></b>	
Psalm 36:5-10 Jeremiah 3:19-25 1 Corinthians 7:1-7	Psalm 36:5-10 Jeremiah 4:1-4 Luke 11:14-23	Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11	

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## PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY



Contact parish office for Prayer Requests.  
Names will be held in prayer for one month,  
*unless otherwise requested.*

Date Requested	Praying For (person/family)	Prayers For	Requested By
1/8/2025	The family of Bob Bell	As they grieve the passing of Bob Bell	Lanie Turner
12/11/2024	The family of Mark Waxenburg	As they grieve the passing of Mark Waxenburg	Lanie Turner
12/2/2024	The family of Andy Vincens	As they grieve the passing of Andy Vincens	Jan Salvatore
10/27/2024	Robert Feder	<i>Resilience, comfort, and healing amidst profound health challenge since March 2023.</i>	Gail Feder
10/27/2024	Dan Burnett	<i>Strength, comfort, and healing during this significant health challenge.</i>	Carol Burnett

For Concordia's ongoing transition process.

### The Intentions of this Community:

- † Concordia Nursery School Students and their families
- † The work of MACC
- † The work of the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA)
- † For our Cub Scout Pack
- † 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.



# Fastnacht Dinner

## With Traditional German Fare

**Save the Date!**

**Concordia Lutheran Church**

**Social hour 11:15-12:30**

Cheese/crackers  
Beer and wine

**Dinner 12:30**

Roast Pork, German Potato Salad  
Red Cabbage Salad, Applesauce

**Please Join Us!**

**Sunday March 2, 2025**

**Suggested Donation \$13.00 per person**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number Attending \_\_\_\_ I can bring a dessert \_\_\_\_

**Please submit this reservation form by February 23, 2025**