

WELCOME TO EMMAUS LUTHERAN!



THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Sunday, September 14, 2025**

# GOD'S DIVINE SERVICE TO US:

## Jesus Christ Is the Great Shepherd of His Sheep



*"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"* (1 Tim. 1:15). As He had mercy on Paul, in order to *"display his perfect patience"* (1 Tim. 1:16), so also does He seek out His sheep *"from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness"* (Ezek. 34:12). To deliver His flock, He *"will seek the lost, ... bring back the strayed, ... bind up the injured, and ... strengthen the weak"* (Ezek. 34:16), and *"they shall no longer be a prey"* (Ezek. 34:22). He sets over them one great Good Shepherd, the Son of David, who *"shall feed them and be their shepherd"* (Ezek. 34:23). For Christ Jesus is the one man who, *"having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them,"* would *"leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it"* (Luke 15:4). When He finds the lost one and brings it home rejoicing, *"the angels of God"* and all the company of heaven rejoice with Him, with great joy (Luke 15:7, 10).

**WELCOME!** What a blessing to gather together to worship the One True God! The Lord will bless your worship as he brings His gifts to you through Word and Sacrament. May we all respond with prayer, praise and thanksgiving. **We invite you to prepare for worship in silence and prayer.** Remembering your Baptism, you are encouraged to make the sign of the cross when you see this symbol ✝ in the bulletin. **If you are a guest, Pastor Olsen would love to meet you and we ask that you sign our guest Book located in the front hallway.**



**WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN:** Worship is a time for the entire family to be together to hear the Word of God, for faith comes by hearing (Rom. 10:17). Therefore we encourage parents and children of all ages to sit together in the service. Understanding it is difficult for little ones to sit for long periods, **Totes for Tots** activity bags are available as you enter church (*by the information table*) for children to use during the worship service. Each bag contains books and quiet toys. Please return the bags and their contents after the worship service. Thank you!



A **Cry Room** is also available in the Preschool/Mrs. MacKenzie's room (east hall), where you can listen to the worship service.

**DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WORSHIP SERVICE?** If it is your first time, some things may seem foreign. Worship does not come naturally we have to learn it. It does not come on the first try; the first hour in a foreign country the language and customs may be foreign. The liturgy is the special activity of the baptized people of God. It has its own special language like we do in our workplaces. It has its own customs like we do in our families. Every Sunday we learn more of worship and faith. The liturgy is where God reveals Himself to us and gives us His gifts. Here we learn who He is and how to respond to Him. The words of worship come from the Scriptures and its form has been used for 2,000 years. So don't worry if it all seems strange. You learn by practicing - join us each week!

**"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the House of the Lord...'" Psalm 122:1**



**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:** O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

**RESTROOMS** are located on each side of the sanctuary. There is a baby changing table located in the girl's locker room on the west side. We also have a **Family Restroom** (handicap accessible & baby changing station) located at the southwest corner of the building, just outside the Church Office.



# DIVINE SERVICE

*Setting One*

Pg 151

***Divine Service***  
*Lutherans follow an order of worship based exclusively on Scripture and focused completely on Jesus. Through the Word and Sacraments, God speaks to His people.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Teaching Moment**

# Opening Hymn 686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -  
 4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
 help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,  
 strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter  
 love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less  
 Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
 Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I  
 How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me  
 strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to  
 feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my  
 tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.  
 res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.  
 heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.  
 an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Hymn writer Robert Robinson became known as an able minister and scholar, writing various theological books as well as several hymns, including these words written when he was just 23 years of age. (John 4:14; 1 Samuel 7:3-12; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Ephesians 1:13-14)*

# + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

## Invocation

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

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

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

**C** Amen.

*Invocation is from the Latin for "call upon"; the words spoken at the beginning of the service; serves as a reminder of Holy Baptism.*

**P** = Pastor

**L** = Liturgist/Lector

**C** = Congregation

*Confession is the act by which one admits or confesses sin(s) and the guilt of sin.*

*Absolution literally means "set free." This Latin term was used as a translation of the biblical word *aphiemi*, meaning "to set free, cancel, or forgive."*

# Introit



# Kyrie

  
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

*Kyrie is Greek for "Lord, have mercy." It is the first prayer of the congregation in the Divine Service; it is a cry for mercy that our Lord and King will hear us and help us in our needs and troubles.*



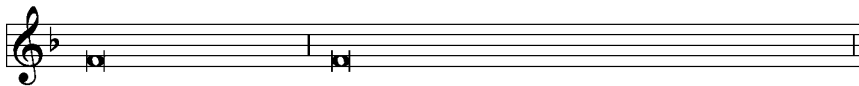
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



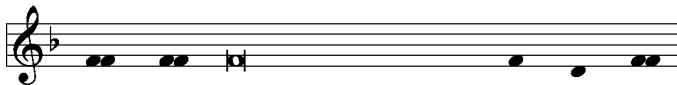
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## Hymn of Praise Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:

*Gloria in Excelsis:  
Confident that the  
Lord is merciful and  
has forgiven us, we  
join the whole  
Church and all the  
angels in singing  
glory to God.*



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.

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.

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.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



**C** And al - so with you.

- P** Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*The Salutation shows the special relationship between the congregation and the pastor, God's representative. It is a greeting found often in the Bible.*

*The Collect is the pastor's first prayer in the name of the people, as he speaks for the congregation. It "collects" the theme for the day in a concise way.*



## Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-24

<sup>11</sup>“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

<sup>17</sup>“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. <sup>18</sup>Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? <sup>19</sup>And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

<sup>20</sup>“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup>I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup>And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Summary:**  
*God Himself will  
gather His flock . .  
.through His son,  
Jesus Christ.*

# Gradual



*The Gradual is a response of praise between the Old Testament and Epistle readings.*

Soloist: Fear the Lord, | you his saints,\*  
for those who fear him lack | nothing!

**C:** Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,\*  
but the Lord delivers him out | of them all.

## Epistle: 1 Timothy 1: (5-11) 12-17

<sup>5</sup>The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. <sup>6</sup>Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, <sup>7</sup>desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

<sup>8</sup>Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, <sup>9</sup>understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, <sup>10</sup>the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, <sup>11</sup>in accordance with the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

<sup>12</sup>I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, <sup>13</sup>though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

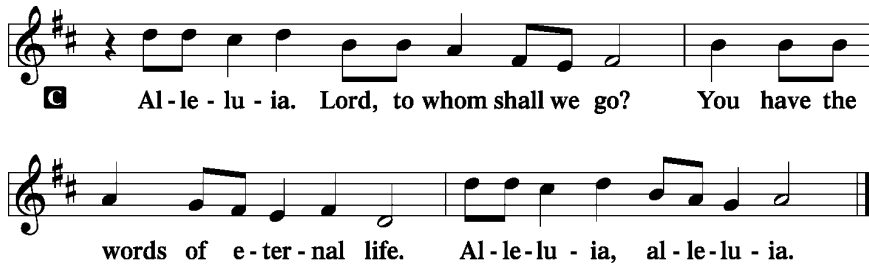
**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Summary:**  
*A wonderful example of Law and Gospel.*

## Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68



*Alleluia is Hebrew for "praise the Lord" and is a word of joy and gladness.*

*The Verse is a response sung between the Epistle and Gospel readings in the Divine Service.*

## Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.



<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus].

<sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup>"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?

<sup>9</sup>And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



### Summary:

*God seeks out the lost and when a sinner repents, heaven rejoices.*

## Hymn of the Day 709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant  
love He sought me And on His shoul - der  
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.  
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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.

*This is our school  
hymn of the month.*

*Henry W. Baker  
was asked to  
compile a new  
hymnal for his  
church and he  
added this hymn, a  
paraphrase of  
Psalm 23. (Psalm  
23; John 10:11;  
Luke 15:4-7;  
Revelation 7:17)*

*The Sermon: The  
preacher proclaims  
God's Law and  
Gospel for the  
hearers.*

*The Apostles' Creed  
is a statement of  
what we believe,  
teach and confess.  
The word "Creed"  
comes from Latin  
word meaning, "I  
Believe."*

He descended into hell.  
 The third day he rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
 from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy Christian church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

*The Prayer of the Church includes prayers that what has been heard may be taken to heart and that God would take care of our needs.*

## Prayer of the Church [1 Timothy 2:1-4]

## Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



**G** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
 me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

## Offering

*Please place your offering in one of the collection plates located at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to contribute electronically, please sign up at [www.emmausfortwayne.org](http://www.emmausfortwayne.org) and click on "Give Online" or use Vanco Mobile, available from the App Store. Thank you !*

*The Offering symbolizes the "spiritual worship" of Christian lives offered in response to God and unites the faithful in an act of fellowship.*

## Voluntary

### Children's Choir K-2

#### *I Am Jesus' Little Lamb*

I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am; For my Shepherd gently guides me, Knows my need and well provides me, Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.

Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay. When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me; When I thirst, He bids me go, Where the quiet waters flow.

Text: Public domain

#### *We Are the Church*

(Refrain) I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together! All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes we're the church together!

The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, the church is the people. *(refrain)*

We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces, all colors and all ages too, From all times and places. *(refrain)*

And when the people gather, There's singing and there's praying, there's laughing and there's crying sometimes, all of it saying . . . *(refrain)*

## Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

**☩ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those  
who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer is the model prayer Jesus taught to the disciples (Matthew 6:9-13). Sometimes it is called the Our Father, after the first words of the prayer.*

## Collect

**P** Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Musical Selection

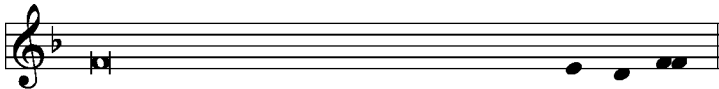
## Children's Choir K-2

### *Go Now In Peace*

Go now in peace,  
Go now in peace,  
May the love of God surround you,  
Everywhere, everywhere  
You may go

## Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.



**C** A - men.

*The Benediction is  
God's blessing for  
the congregation  
given through the  
pastor at the very  
end of the service.*

## Closing Hymn

## 922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing, Nev-er a-lone.  
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.  
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos-er to Me;  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you  
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy-ful and free. Here My  
I the Lord will smile up-on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you Mine for-ev-er.  
heard My dear Son's sto-ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo-ry.  
Spir-it's pow-er filled you; Here His ten-der com-fort stilled you.  
Lord will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and Broth-er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.  
Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.  
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.  
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

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Tune: Public domain

*God sends us out with His many gifts which are far more than even this hymn can recount. (Titus 3:4-7; John 20:19-29; John 14:26-27; Numbers 6:22-27)*

## Announcements

## Dismissal

**P** Go in peace to serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God!

## Postlude

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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# BACK *to the* BASICS

Join us as we explore six  
of the most wonderful  
gifts God has given us.



Every Wednesday  
Starts Sept. 17



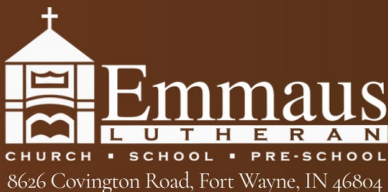
7:00 PM



6th Grade Room

## What to Expect:

- ✓ Solid Biblical Teaching
- ✓ For those new to the faith  
or reinforcing it
- ✓ Prayer & Fellowship



*Please join us today for the  
Church & School Picnic  
at 11:30.*



### **Participating in Today's Service**

**Preacher:** Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III

**Acolyte:** Hunter Durlacher

**Elder:** Mr. Bill Schmidt

**Organist:** Mr. Timothy LaCroix

**Soloist:** Mrs. Emily Peck

### **MISSION OF EMMAUS LUTHERAN:**

*Empowered by God's gift of never-ending love in Word and Sacrament and responding to the forgiveness won for us by Jesus Christ on the cross, the mission of the family of Emmaus Lutheran is to*  
**COURAGEOUSLY CONFESS CHRIST**  
*through worship, life together, teaching and service.*

**UNITY   ✝   FAMILY   ✝   FAITHFUL   ✝   EDUCATION   ✝   CONFSSIONAL**

# This Week at Emmaus

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**Today, Sunday, September 14**

**The 14th Sunday after Pentecost**

10:00 am     Divine Service  
*Acolyte:*   Hunter Durlacher  
*Elder:*     Mr. Bill Schmidt

**11:30 am   Church & School  
                    Picnic**

**Thursday, September 18**

10:45 am     Thirsty Thursday Class  
6:00 pm     Handbells  
7:00 pm     Adult Choir

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**Sunday, September 21**

**The 15h Sunday after Pentecost**

***Second Observance of  
125th Anniversary***

9:00 am     Divine Service  
*Acolyte:*     Trapper Durlacher  
*Elder:*       Mr. Stan Veit



**COURAGEOUSLY CONFESSING CHRIST**

8626 Covington Road  
Fort Wayne, IN 46804  
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School: [www.emmauslutheranfw.org](http://www.emmauslutheranfw.org)

Check out our YouTube Channel:  
Emmaus Lutheran Fort Wayne



**The Ministry of Emmaus is eager to serve you!**

**Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III, Pastor**  
Home: 260-255-4630  
[revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org](mailto:revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org)

**Elizabeth Berg, Church & Preschool Admin. Assistant**

**Karen Detwiler, Family Care Coordinator**

**Timothy LaCroix, Music Director**

**Joann Olsen, Preschool Director**

**Maria Renteria, School Admin. Assistant**

**Jamelyn Rigdon, Business Manager**

**Esther Spanos, Principal**

*A member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.*



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## ***LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR***

**September 14** – Jesus made His cross a decidedly public proclamation, lifted up and appealing to everyone (John 12:32). Christianity knows nothing of private convictions and personal choices. We get to speak openly, courageously, and compassionately that no other deliverance exists (Psalm 40:10), not even abortion or assisted suicide. Every human life belongs to Him alone who has drawn all unto Himself. *Life Thoughts* are based on the appointed readings from *Lutheran Service Book*. [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org).

**Sunday, September 14, 2025**

**Remember in Prayer this Week**

### **Hospitalized/Sick/Recuperating**

**Pamela Richter**, continuing to experience health issues

**Aaron Arnold**, father of Lori Bushur, recovering from multiple surgeries

**Faith Ells**, (26 years old), friend of Barbara Cox, undergoing cancer treatment

**Kelsey Zimmerman**, friend of Amanda Heeren, undergoing treatment for leukemia.

**Marjie Meyers**, mother of Anna Bultemeier, who is dealing with bladder cancer.

**Tom Jones**, father of Kathy Veit, who is recovering from a fall

### **Pray for:**

**Daniel  
FCG**

Anna Arnold, Bultemeier Family, Margie Crabtree, Tim Durnell Family, Michelle Hakey, Larry & Mary Lunz, Moore Family, and Kim Smith.

### **Pray for:**

For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

# Catechism Review

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

LUTHER'S  
SMALL  
Catechism

### The Close of the Commandments

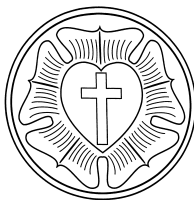
*What does God say about all these commandments?*

He says: "I, the Lord Your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My

commandments." Exodus 20:5-6

*What does this mean?*

God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.



### A Reading from the Book of Concord, Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration Article VI, The Third Use of God's Law

"The law is not laid down for the just" as the apostle testifies, but for the unrighteous. Yet this is not to be understood, as though the justified are to live without Law. God's Law has been written in their heart. Also a law was given to the first man after his creation, to conduct himself according to this law. What St. Paul means is that the curse of the Law cannot burden those who have been reconciled to God through Christ. Nor must the Law confuse the regenerate with its coercion, for they have pleasure in God's Law in the inner man.

If God's believing and elect children were completely renewed in this life by the indwelling Spirit, so they were entirely free from sin, they would not need any law. They would need no one to motivate them, either. They would do voluntarily, without any instruction or admonition of the Law, what they are in duty bound to do according to God's will. Indeed, they would act just like the holy angels.

However, believers are not renewed in this life perfectly. Their sin is covered by Christ's perfect obedience, so that it is not charged against believers for condemnation. Also, the putting to death of the old Adam and the renewal in the spirit of their mind is begun through the Holy Spirit. Nevertheless, the old Adam still clings to them in their nature and all its inward and outward powers.

(paragraphs 5-7)

[Condensed quotations from the Lutheran Confessions from Concordia: the Lutheran Confessions,  
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**Weekly Word & Prayer**  
September 14  
2025  
*We encourage you to take this insert home with you and use it as part of your family or individual devotions.*

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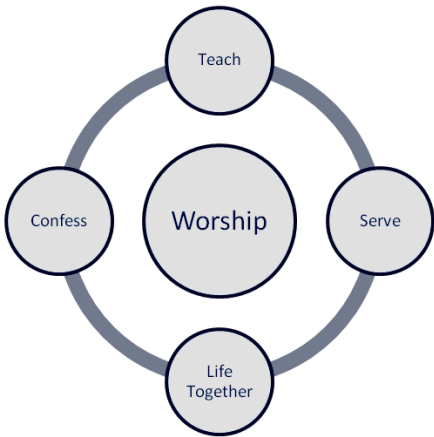




# EMMAUS NEWS & NOTES

For the week of September 14, 2025

## DONE IN LOVE



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## NURTURING THE FAITH

### BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Sunday School Classes**

No class today — join us at the picnic!

#### **Adult Bible Class**

No class today — join us at the picnic!

#### **Thirsty Thursdays**

As this is the 3rd Thursday of the month, we will go to Zion and join their study on the Confessions.

### DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS

#### **Higher Things *Reflections***

The next issue, covering September 7—October 4 is available. Pick up your copy from the front table.

#### ***Portals of Prayer***

We have the devotion booklets for July—September 2025. Please feel free to pick one up from the table in the front hall.

### Worship Attendance

#### **Sunday, September 7**

*Worship:* 101      *Bible Class:* 41

| FY 2025-26 Tithing commitment as approved at the<br>June 8, 2025 Voter's Assembly |              |
|---|--------------|
| Weekly Tithing Commitment   | \$7,663.00   |
| Tithing Received Last Week (plate and electronic)                                 | \$6,371.53   |
| Overage (Shortfall)   | (\$1,291.47) |
|   |              |
| YTD Tithing Commitment  | \$76,630.00  |
| YTD Tithing Received  | \$76,414.01  |
| Overage (Shortfall)   | (\$215.99)   |
| Long-Term Commitments/Obligations (updated 8/25/2025)                             |              |
| Mortgage Balance  | \$952,659.63 |
| Line of Credit Balance  | \$0.00       |
| Concordia Lutheran High School Congregation Assessment Balance                    | \$41,304.12  |

LIFE TOGETHER

WEEKLY SHUT-IN VISITS

If you are physically unable to attend the Sunday morning worship service, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a bulletin, the News & Notes, as well as a copy of the sermon. (We deliver on Mondays). Please contact the church office, 459-7722 and press "3".

*Dave & Joan Kendall*

PRAYER CHAIN

Here’s an easy, but important way to serve at Emmaus. Become part of our Prayer Chain! When a prayer request has been received, you will receive a phone call with the information, then you call the next person on the chain. Need more information? Contact Peggy Kreigh at 260-710-2872.

## KROGER REWARDS

Over the years, the school has benefitted greatly from this wonderful program!

If you have not yet designated rewards at Kroger, please consider it. Every bit helps! Just link your Kroger card to an organization and swipe it when you shop!

### Here's how to link it:

1. Go to Kroger.com and set up an account (if you don't have one) or log into your account.
2. Under your account options select My Account.
3. Scroll down the page and select Community Rewards.
4. Under Organization Name, enter **Emmaus Lutheran School and Church** or use Organization Number **BF171**.



Thank you to all who are participating in the Kroger Community Rewards. We appreciate your support!

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## OTHER

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### WORSHIP ANEW—Broadcast

Watch weekly on Sundays at 7:00 a.m. on NBC's Channel 21.2, 8:00a.m. on MyTV - Frontier 9, Digital 21.3 and Comcast 2 52; 11:30 a.m. on WINM-TV 12/38 - TCT; and 4:00 p.m. Sunday and 10:00 a.m. Monday on Comcast 55 and Frontier 25 [PA]. Today's program with Rev. Dr. Walter Maier, III is "**Zealous for your Salvation**" — That you have been brought to faith in Jesus & have forgiveness & everlasting life is not by coincidence. No, it's because God is zealous for your salvation. God wanting you to be saved is seen in the history of Israel, in the earthly life of Christ, & in your own life. All this shows that you are precious to the Lord.

### GERMANFEST

The Friends of Wyneken will host a Germanfest at the historic Wyneken House on **Saturday, September 27**, from 5:30-9:00 PM. There will be German and American food and beverages, a silent auction, music by the duo String Theory, and plenty of gemutlichkeit. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Call or text (260) 437-0420 for information or to reserve tickets. The Wyneken House is located at 11730 NW Winchester Road, Decatur, Indiana.



## New FALL RETREAT

Christ Academy's tradition is made up of three important elements: confessional catechesis, liturgical worship, and fun life together. The retreat will focus on the Apostles' Creed, with sessions led by CTSFW faculty member Dr. Todd A. Peperkorn. If you have not yet registered, now is the time. The dates are **Sept. 19-21** and will be held at CTSFW. Visit <https://ctsfw.regfox.com/2025-christ-academy-college> to register.



## PROJECT CONNECT BOOKLETS

This week's featured brochure is: ***"The Bible: What? When? Why?"*** - Why do Christians care so much about the Bible? They read the Bible and talk about it and study it. They preach and teach about the stories found in it. Why is this book so important? Who is it about? What makes it so different from other books? Pick up this booklet to read more about it.

| MARK YOUR CALENDAR!    |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Wednesday,<br>Sept. 17 | 7:00 <b>Back to the Basics Class</b><br>All are invited to join us!                          |
| Thursday,<br>Sept. 18  | 10:45 am Confessions @ Zion<br>6:00 Handbells 7:00 Adult Choir                               |
| Sunday, Sept.<br>21    | <b>Third Observance of 125th Anniversary</b><br>with Rev. Ben Ball                           |
| Wednesday,<br>Sept. 24 | 6:30 pm <b>Finance Town Hall</b><br>7:00 Back to the Basics Class                            |
| Thursday,<br>Sept. 25  | 10:45 am Thirsty Thursday<br>6:00 Handbells 7:00 Adult Choir                                 |
| Sunday,<br>Sept. 28    | 10:45 am Divine Service<br><b>Voter's Meeting to follow with</b><br><b>Spaghtetti Dinner</b> |

Sunday, September 28, 10:30am-12:30pm

# DELICIOUS CARRY-OUT Spaghetti Lunch

Supported by the Board of Christian Education.  
Proceeds go towards registration and travel costs of the Higher Things Summer Conference at Washington University, St. Louis

Lunch includes a generous helping of spaghetti, garlic bread, salad and a dessert

**Pay in Advance: \$8.00 per meal**

**Pay at the Door: \$8.50 per meal**

Pre-purchased meals are appreciated to ensure proper planning.  
Cash or check made out to Emmaus Lutheran Church.

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Name:           |  |
| Phone Number:   |  |
| How many meals: |  |
| Total Paid:     |  |

# BACK *to the* BASICS

Join us as we explore six  
of the most wonderful  
gifts God has given us.



Every Wednesday  
Starts Sept. 17



7:00 PM



6th Grade Room

## What to Expect:

- ✓ Solid Biblical Teaching
- ✓ For those new to the faith or reinforcing it
- ✓ Prayer & Fellowship



# — CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL —

## **Homecoming Game and Festivities** – Friday, September 26

Join in the homecoming festivities with everyone from the Concordia Lutheran High School family! Festivities, including the Alumni Social, start at Zollner Stadium at 5:30 p.m. Then, come root on the Football Cadets as they take on Bishop Luers in the homecoming game which starts at 7 p.m.

## **Homecoming Alumni After-Party** – Friday, September 26

Following the homecoming game, enjoy yourselves at the Alumni After-Party at Fort Wayne Turners beginning at 8:30 p.m. Come have some food, fun and fellowship with fellow members of the Concordia Lutheran High School family! Visit [clhscadets.com/alumni-weekend](https://clhscadets.com/alumni-weekend) for more information.

## **Free Wine and Cheese Event for CLHS Parents and Teachers** –

October 1—Parents and guardians of Concordia Lutheran High School students, along with our faculty and staff, are invited to a free Wine & Cheese Night on Wednesday, October 1, from 7–9 p.m. on the beautiful concourse at Zollner Stadium.

This 21+ adults-only evening is the perfect chance to relax, enjoy wine and savory bites, and connect with fellow members of the CLHS community in a warm, casual setting. Bring your conversation and laughter as we make it a night of fellowship and fun! Scan the QR code to RSVP today.

## **Grandparents Day Registration Now Open**

Concordia Lutheran High School is excited to welcome grandparents of our sophomores and seniors for Grandparents Day on Monday, October 13, 2025. Register at the link below! Join us for a morning of fellowship, worship, and time together, followed by lunch with your grandchild. RSVP today to reserve your spot for this special tradition. If a grandparent cannot attend, students may invite another special adult to share the day. Scan the QR code to register.