



OUR MISSION

Creating a Christ-Centered community gathered together...To joyfully worship our God... To grow in faith and knowledge...To love one another...And to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 – 9:00 AM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 – 9:00 AM

with Communion

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 – 9:00 AM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22 – 9:00 AM

with Communion

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 – 4:00 PM

(Thanksgiving Eve)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 – 9:00 AM

**Online Services will continue on Facebook and
YouTube**

PRIVATE COMMUNION BY APPOINTMENT

WEDNESDAY'S – 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

THURSDAY'S - 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

But what if I were to tell you that you may also confess that you are *a saint*? Is such a claim presumptuous? Shall we declare instead, like the Church of Rome, that a saint is an especially esteemed believer, and that one becomes a saint having been formally canonized by the Church? Such a teaching outlines a rather lengthy process, often taking many years, even centuries. First is an investigation of the candidate's life by the church. If the application is approved, the person may be granted the title of "venerable." Further investigations may lead to the candidate's title of "blessed." At a minimum, two important miracles are required. Finally, after you have died and gone to heaven, the Pope canonizes you a saint.

Outside of the Roman Church, such a view of sainthood may sound a bit odd. All the same, confessing *yourself* to be a saint may *also* sound strange. An historical definition identifies a saint as that person who preceded us in the faith. They fought the good fight. Now, out of respect for their perseverance and faithfulness, we refer to them as living with Jesus among the "saints". Or we think of someone who was martyred for the faith, such as Peter or Stephen or some of the reformers.

Pastor's Message

Simultaneously Sinners and Saints

All Saints Day (November 1st) is a day when we confess that we are simultaneously sinners and saints. Perhaps the part about being a sinner will strike you as nothing new. You confess your sin every Sunday. You recite with the others assembled, "I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You . . ."

On the other hand, it may occur to us that *none* of us deserve the honor of being called a saint. We're born and conceived in sin. By nature, our every thought, desire, word and deed are corrupt, and we can do nothing to exonerate ourselves before our God and Judge who alone is holy. To say the least, it sounds like a contradiction to confess in one breath that you are a sinner, and in the next breath that you are a saint.

But what if in confessing that you are a saint you are stating less about yourself and more about your Savior? Martin Luther once said: "To call yourself a saint, therefore, is no presumption but an act of gratitude and a confession of God's blessings." The reformer also declared: "They are not called saints because they are without sin or have become saintly through works. On the contrary, they themselves, with all their works, are (by nature) nothing but condemned sinners. But they become holy through a foreign holiness, namely, through that of the Lord Christ, which is given them by faith and thus becomes their own."

Coming to mind is the Greek translation for the word "saint", which means "to set apart", "to sanctify" or "to make holy." We are referring to Christians of every time and place who are made believers not by their works but by God's Word. To state it quite simply, you and I became saints by God's Word in holy Baptism. That is when we were first dressed with Christ's robe of righteousness. We are furthermore sustained in our sainthood through the hearing of the Gospel and the receiving of Holy Communion.

That is why you and I may confess that we are simultaneously sinners and saints. By faith in Christ's suffering and death, we receive the righteousness of our Savior. Those are not words of presumption. Those are words of confession. We confess Christ, and we leave the final confession to him. "Therefore, whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32).

Pastor Preus

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter article – November 2020

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, His death for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water – combined with His Word, promise, and Name – the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And, being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure is that we belong to the most Holy Trinity, and everything that is His – righteousness, peace, eternal life – also belongs also to us. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as a sacrifice.

Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to nourish our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow Christians, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and they bring blessings upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom.

Thus, we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us. He pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but, giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more

diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all – even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

Time To Reserve Your Poinsettias!

Reserve your Gertens Poinsettias . Order deadline is November 15th. Each plant cost is \$15.00, and you can choose red or white Christmas Poinsettias. Please call Marcia Lally to place your order 651-451-0652.

Holiday Gift Giving

Concordia will be participating in the Neighbors Inc. Holiday Gift Program again this Christmas. We will be purchasing gifts for two boys ages 14 & 7.

We have a wish list for both of the boys. If you would like to participate by purchasing a gift or donating money for a gift please contact Kimberly Olson at 651.366.0714 or by email at kischolson@gmail.com.

Due to COVID we have a very small shopping window. The gifts need to be delivered to Neighbors the week before Thanksgiving.

The final date to drop off gifts at church will be Sunday November 15th.

*Note from Neighbors regarding undesignated gifts: We are only able to accept toys and gifts for a specific family or senior in our adoption program. If you would like to help but are unable to adopt a family or senior, please consider making a financial donation at neighborsmn.org/donate.

Thank you for your support!

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Our Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service will be Wednesday, November 25th at 4:00 pm. This will allow most people attending to arrive back home before full darkness. Sadly, we had to change the Pie Social this year to follow gathering protocol guidelines, so as you leave church, you may take an individual prepackaged slice of pie home to enjoy.

Voter's Assembly Meeting

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Voter's Assembly Meeting held Sunday, December 6th at 10:00 am. At this meeting we will vote to approve the 2021 budget as well as have a town meeting. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary to allow for social distancing and we will be using the cordless microphone to allow for questions.

Private Communion By Appointment

You can choose this option by calling the church office on Wednesdays or Thursdays to make an appointment for Wednesday, Thursday, of the following week. Wednesdays will start at 11:30 am with the last appointment at 12:30 pm. Thursdays will start at 10:00 am with the last appointment at 12:30 pm. We are allowing 30 minutes for each appointment.

Online Worship Service Still Available

You can watch our Concordia services and listen to beautiful organ music just by going to our Facebook page at [concordiassp](https://www.facebook.com/concordiassp) and choosing Concordia Lutheran, on the left hand side of the page click on videos and choose the one you want to watch or watch it on YouTube by searching Concordia Lutheran Church SSP, be sure to hit the subscribe button. Thank you to everyone involved in making this available to the congregation!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bruce Avenson
Paul Helgerson
Neil Olson
Kris Westad

BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Board of Community Activities – Sue Ogorek
Board of Elders – Mark Stoltenow 651-283-9541

SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS

Bruce & Gail Avenson and Cathy Johnston

Announcement And Servant Article Deadline

The deadline for turning in bulletin announcement articles is Wednesday each week by 9 am. The deadline for turning in Servant articles is the third Thursday of each month by 9 am. Email is the preferred method for delivering your article(s).
concordiachurch@qwestoffice.net

November 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Voting Day Concordia Polling Place	4	5	6 9:00 am Church Cleaners	7
8 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study	9	10	11 10:00 am Adult Bible Study  Veterans Day	12 9:00 am Hannah's Quilters	13 9:00 am Church Cleaners	14
15 9:00 am Worship w/communion 10:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study	16	17	18 10:00 am Adult Bible Study	19	20 9:00 am Church Cleaners	21
22 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study 11:15 am Board of Dir. Meets	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Eve 10:00 am Adult Bible Study 4:00 pm Worship	26 	27 9:00 am Church Cleaners	28
29 9:00 am Worship w/communion 10:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study	30	Concordia Lutheran Church 255 West Douglas Street South St Paul, MN 55075 651-451-0309 Worship Service each Sunday at 9:00 am (Communion every 2nd & 4th Sunday) Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:15 am Wednesday Adult Bible Study 10:00 am				



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
255 WEST DOUGLAS STREET
SOUTH SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55075



And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Colossians 3:15