



# 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.

## **OCTOBER WORSHIP SERVICES**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 – 9:00 AM**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – 9:00 AM**

**with Communion**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 – 9:00 AM**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 – 9:00 AM**

**with Communion**

**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**

## **Pastor's Message**

### ***Give Your Soul a Rest!***

**October 2020**

Are you tired? Sometimes we're tired from the top of our heads to the souls of our feet. We're tired from the inside out. We're tired physically, mentally as well as spiritually. We're so exhausted, we don't know where one type of fatigue ends and the other begins. Even worse, we can't find meaningful rest in

any way, shape, or form. We're not sure rest is even possible anymore.

Insomnia is a condition endured by many. Despite the degree of your fatigue, you cannot sleep. You try drugs, alcohol, or a leave of absence. But you find little relief. You may even consult a sleep expert and leave feeling disappointed and frustrated. The real solution to the problem, of course, lies in determining the real cause. It may have something to do with your diet or with what medications you're taking. Or it may relate to an anxiety disorder or with post-traumatic stress. Or it may be caused by simply having too much on your mind, too many "irons in the fire" over which you have no control. In short, you need to give yourself a rest. But it isn't so simple. Finding the right answer will take some more time and effort.

You should know, there is also such a thing as *spiritual* insomnia. And no one is immune to it. It occurs when we cannot find the proper rest for our souls. We're feeling afraid because our life has changed, and we don't know how to deal with the effects of the change. Or it has to do with our aging outmoded body. We're feeling hurt and lonely because we seem to have been forgotten by friends and family. Or we're feeling guilty because we've

gone back on our word. We've placed our interests before those whom God has given us to serve.

The solution to our problem, as with the first form of insomnia, lies in learning the underlining cause of our sleeplessness. In this second case, it should prove a bit simpler. The culprit happens to be sin, which has permeated not only our personal being but God's entire creation. Rest may occur when we learn how the Lord takes our sin away. *"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden"* Jesus declares, *"and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."*

Rest and sleep are a gift. Those who acknowledge their sinfulness and admit that it is a burden too heavy for them to bear are those whom Jesus promises rest. Rest comes from his cross upon which he blotted out all sin. Are you tired from the effects of sin, which continues to alter and disrupt the world around you? Give your soul a rest! You don't need a vacation, a sleeping pill, or advice from a doctor. In Christ you receive all the peace and rest you require. The Lord assures you that you are forgiven and a citizen of his eternal kingdom.

Pastor Preus

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## **The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry**

### **Newsletter article – October 2020**

We celebrate the Reformation at the end of each October. The Reformation began on All Saints' Eve in 1517, which was when Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. So, let's hear from Luther himself on the topic of giving and stewardship.

In the Small Catechism under the Table of Duties, Martin Luther gives specific Bible passages to help Christians know their duty in their various vocations as members of their family, society at large, and in God's family, the Church. Under the heading "What Hearers Owe Their Pastors," Luther lists five

passages from the Bible, three of which have to do with giving to your local congregation. They are these:

- "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel." (1 Cor. 9:14)
- "Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." (Gal. 6:6–7)
- "The elders [presbyters, i.e., pastors] who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,' and 'The worker deserves his wages.'" (1 Tim. 5:17–18)

Luther comments on these passages in his 1535 Lectures on Galatians. He wrote:

"When Paul says 'all good things,' this is not to be taken to mean that everyone should share all his possessions with his preacher. No, it means that he should provide for him liberally, giving him as much as is needed to support his life in comfort. ... The apostle is so serious in advocating this topic of support for preachers that he adds a threat to his denunciation and exhortation, saying: 'God is not mocked.' ... All this pertains to the topic of support for ministers. I do not like to interpret such passages; for they seem to commend us, as in fact they do. In addition, it gives the appearance of greed if one emphasizes these things diligently to one's hearers. Nevertheless, people should be taught also about this matter, in order that they may know that they owe both respect and support to their preachers. Christ teaches the same thing in Luke 10:7: 'Eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages'; and Paul

says elsewhere (1 Cor. 9:13–14): ‘Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the Gospel should get their living by the Gospel.’ It is important for us who are in the ministry to know this, so that we do not have a bad conscience about accepting for our work wages ... it happens when those who proclaim the glory of God and faithfully instruct the youth derive their livelihood from them. It is impossible that one man should be devoted to household duties day and night for his support and at the same time pay attention to the study of Sacred Scripture, as the teaching ministry requires. Since God has commanded and instituted this, we should know that we may with a good conscience enjoy what is provided for the comfortable support of our lives from church properties to enable us to devote ourselves to our office.” (LW 27:125–126)

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### 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. We will serve communion in individually wrapped containers.

### 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!

### In Appreciation Of Pastor Preus

The entire month of October is celebrated as Clergy Appreciation Month. Specifically, the second Sunday in October (October 11<sup>th</sup>) is Clergy Appreciation Day. We want to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Preus for his spiritual leadership and guidance. Our congregation is more blessed for it.

### Temporary Schedule Change To Wednesday Bible Study

This week, Wednesday Bible Study will be held on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 AM .

In two weeks, Wednesday Bible Study will be held on Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM.

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

Our Bible study topic beginning Today is *The Religion of Political Correctness*. We will begin by comparing the Pharisees of Jesus’ day with the secular Pharisees of today. Then we will compare and contrast the following teachings.

<u>Political Correctness</u>	<u>Christianity</u>
Relative Truth	Absolute Truth
Secular Humanism	The Justification of Sinners
Human Tolerance	Christian
Forgiveness	
Human Rights	Christian Vocation
Human Rights and Choice	The Sanctify of Life

After a few weeks our study will conclude with a discussion on how to live with and confess our faith to the politically correct.

### Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesday morning’s Bible study topic is entitled *God’s People Grieve*. The Christian, like the unbeliever, is sure to suffer the loss of loved ones and to grieve. This is because “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23) as Paul puts it. What’s more, our inclination, much like the unbeliever, is to fight our loss and resist our time to grieve. In this study we will distinguish between natural human grieving and Christian grieving. As death will indeed have its way with everyone, fighting our loss can only promise continued sorrow and grief. The Christian, however, is permitted to engage in another fight,

what the apostle calls the *good fight*. During this fight the believer may face the truth head on, recognizing that death is only a portal to eternal life. Existing side by side with our sorrow is joy, as we rejoice in our Savior's victory over sin and death.

- **Part 1:** The Fight Not to Grieve
  - Round 1: Sucker Punch (Shock and Denial)
  - Round 2: Seeing Red (Anger, Blame, and the Search for a Scapegoat)
  - Round 3: Fancy Footwork (Seeking Answers)
- **Part 2:** The Good Fight
  - Round 4: Going the Distance (Confronting Your Sorrow)
  - Round 5 - Victory Round: (Living in Christian Joy)

**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](mailto:concordiachurch@qwestoffice.net)

# October 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4	5	8	7	1	2	3
9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study	<p style="text-align: center;">Concordia Lutheran Church 255 W. Douglas St So. St. Paul, MN 55075 651-451-0309</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship Service each Sunday at 9:00 AM Communion 2nd &amp; 4th Sunday every month Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Study 10:15 AM every Sunday Wednesday Adult Bible Study every Wednesday at 10:00 AM</p>		10:00 am Bible Study 11:30 am-12:30 pm Private Communion by Appointment	10:00 am Bible Study 11:30 am-12:30 pm Private Communion by Appointment	8:00 am Church Cleaners	
11	12	15	14	15	16	17
9:00 am Worship w/comm. 10:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study			<b>Office Closed Today</b>	10:00 am Bible Study 11:30 am-12:30 pm Private Communion by Appointment	8:00 am Church Cleaners	
18	19	22	21	22	23	24
9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study			10:00 am Adult Bible Study 11:30am-12:30pm Private Communion by Appointment	10:00 am-12:30pm Private Communion by Appointment	8:00 am Church Cleaners	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:00 am Worship/comm. 10:15 am Sunday School & Bible Study			10:00 am Adult Bible Study 11:30am-12:30pm Private Communion by Appointment	10:00 am-12:30pm Private Communion by Appointment	8:00 am Church Cleaners	 <b>Halloween</b>



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



**Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find;  
knock, and it will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7**