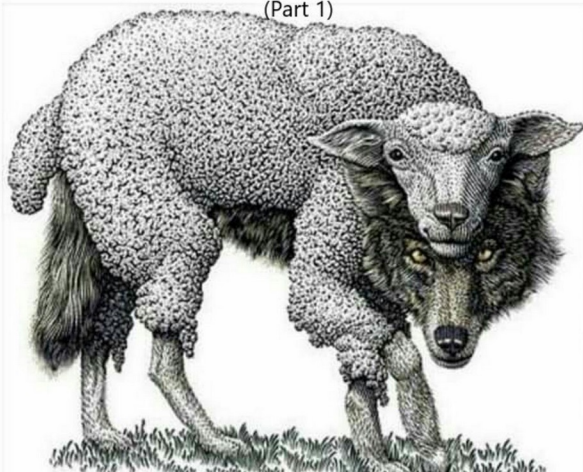


BEWARE OF THE FALSE TEACHERS

(Part 1)



THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY FEAST OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, PENITENT (JULY 22)

Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Telephone: (541) 386-4004 /
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Rev. Rob Lawson, Pastor (760) 715-3993
E-mail: rlawson0651@gmail.com
Mrs. Kristen Lawson, Organist

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF OUR BLESSED LORD! We are pleased you are here, gathered around the Gospel in Preaching and the Sacraments! **GUESTS** – If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

CONFESSIONAL STATEMENT: Concordia Lutheran Church confesses all the Holy Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired word of God without any errors. We also hold, without any reservation, to the teachings of the Evangelical-Lutheran Confessions contained in the 1580 Book of Concord. We confess these teachings to be the correct interpretation of Scripture and a true explanation of the one, holy, catholic (universal) and apostolic faith.

PASTORAL CARE AND GUESTS AT THE LORD'S SUPPER: Scripture and our Confessions teach that the Lord's Supper "is the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine" (Small Catechism). We are concerned about the spiritual welfare of all who commune at the Lord's Table. *If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service.* Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are active members of sister churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod

JULY 21, 2024 † 9:00 A. M.

and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation. In Christ, Pastor Lawson

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. St. Matthew 6:33

One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple. Psalm 27:4

Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Hebrews 10:19-22

† In the Name of Jesus †

Prayer before Worship: Lord God, heavenly Father, we most heartily thank You that by Your Word you have brought us out of the darkness of error into the light of Your grace: We beseech You, mercifully help us to walk in that light, guard us from all error and false doctrine, and grant that we may not become ungrateful and despise and persecute Your Word, but receive it with all our heart, govern our lives according to it, and put all our trust in Your grace, through the merit of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Divine Service: Rite Four (The Lutheran Choral Service) *Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary: p. 107*

The Office of Preparation (Confession & Holy Absolution)

Hymn of Invocation: 439, *Lord of Our Life and God of Our Salvation*

**C: Lord of our life and God of our salvation,
Star of our night and Hope of ev'ry nation,
Hear and receive Thy Church's supplication, Lord God Almighty.**

**See round Thine ark the hungry billows curling;
See how Thy foes their banners are unfurling.
Lord, while their darts envenomed they are hurling, Thou canst preserve us.**

**Lord, Thou canst help when earthly armor faileth;
Lord, Thou canst save when deadly sin assaileth;
Lord, o'er Thy Church nor death nor hell prevaieth; Grant us Thy peace, Lord:**

**Peace in our hearts, our evil thoughts assuaging;
Peace in Thy Church where brothers are engaging
Peace when the world its busy war is waging. Calm Thy foes' raging.**

**Grant us Thy help till backward they are driven;
Grant them Thy truth that they may be forgiven;
Grant peace on earth or, after we have striven, Peace in Thy heaven.**

Invocation & Confession of Sin (spoken)

P: In the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.

P: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.

C: A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.**

P: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord:

Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God and of my holy office I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Kyrie Eleison: 34, Kyrie, God Father in Heaven Above

**C: Kyrie, God Father in heav'n above, Great art Thou in grace and love,
Of all things the Maker and Preserver. Eleison, eleison!**

**Kyrie, O Christ, our King, Salvation for sinners Thou didst bring.
O Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Our Mediator at the heav'nly throne,
Hear our cry and grant our supplication. Eleison, eleison!**

**Kyrie, O God the Holy Ghost,
Guard our faith, the gift we need the most; Do Thou our last hour bless;
Let us leave this sinful world with gladness. Eleison, eleison!**

Gloria in Excelsis (ELH p. 44-45)

P: Glory be to God in the highest

C: And on earth peace, good will toward men.

**C: All glory be to God on high Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall dwell on earth again;
O thank Him for His goodness!**

Salutation: p. 66

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with your spirit.**

Collect for the Day

P: Grant to us, Lord, we beseech You, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may by You be enabled to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Collect for the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene, Penitent

P: Almighty God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, restored Mary Magdalene to health and called her to be the first witness of His resurrection: heal us, we beseech You, from all our infirmities, and call us to know You in the power of Your Son's unending life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Old Testament: *Jeremiah 15:19-21*

P: *In those days Jeremiah prophesied:* Thus says the LORD: If you return, then I will bring you back; you shall stand before Me; if you take out the precious from the vile, you shall be as My mouth. Let them return to you, but you must not return to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified bronze wall; and they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you; for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you from the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem you from the grip of the terrible.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Chief Hymn: 533, *Preserve Thy Word, O Savior (Tune: 517)*

C: **Preserve Thy Word, O Savior, To us this latter day
And let Thy kingdom flourish, Enlarge Thy Church, we pray.
O keep our faith from failing, Keep hope's bright star aglow.
Let naught from Thy Word turn us While wand'ring here below.**

**Preserve, O Lord, Thine honor, The bold blasphemer smite;
Convince, convert, enlighten The souls in error's night.
Reveal Thy will, dear Savior, To all who dwell below –
Thou Light of all the living – That men Thy name may know.**

**Preserve, O Lord, Thy Zion, Bought dearly with Thy blood;
Protect what Thou hast chosen Against the foe's dread brood.
Be Thou her great Defender When dangers gather round;
E'en though the earth be crumbling, Safe will Thy Church be found.**

Epistle: *Romans 8:12-17*

P: Therefore, *brethren*: we are debtors – not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Chief Hymn: 533, *Preserve Thy Word, O Savior, sts. 4-6 (Tune: 517)*

**C: Preserve, O Lord, Thy children, Thine own blest heritage;
Resist, disperse, and scatter Those who against Thee rage.
Let Thy commandments guide us, Grant us Thy heav'nly food;
Clothe us in Thy rich garments, Bought with Thy precious blood.**

**Preserve Thy Word and preaching, The truth that makes us whole,
The mirror of Thy glory, The pow'r that saves the soul.
O may this living water, This dew of heav'nly grace,
Sustain us while here living Until we see Thy face!**

**Preserve in wave and tempest Thy storm-tossed little flock;
Assailed by wind and weather, May it endure each shock.
Take Thou the helm, O Pilot, And set the course aright;
Thus we shall reach the harbor In Thine eternal light.**

Holy Gospel: *St. Matthew 7:13-27*

P: The Holy Gospel according to † St. Matthew, the 7th chapter:

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

At that time Jesus said: Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them. Not everyone who says to Me, "Lord, Lord," shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?" And then I will declare to them, "I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!" "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

P: This is the † Holy Gospel.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

Creedal Hymn: *38, We All Believe in One True God*

**C: We all believe in one true God, Who created earth and heaven,
The Father, who to us in love Hath the right of children given.
He both soul and body feedeth, All we need He doth provide us;
He through snares and perils leadeth, Watching that no harm betide us.
He careth for us day and night, All things are governed by His might.**

**We all believe in Jesus Christ, His own Son, our Lord, possessing
An equal Godhead, throne, and might, Source of every grace and blessing.
Born of Mary, virgin mother, By the power of the Spirit,
Made true man, our elder Brother, That the lost might life inherit;
Was crucified for sinful men And raised by God to life again.**

**We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who sweet grace and comfort giveth
And with the Father and the Son In eternal glory liveth;
Who the Church, His own creation, Keeps in unity of spirit.
Here forgiveness and salvation Daily come through Jesus' merit.
All flesh shall rise, and we shall be In bliss with God eternally. Amen.**

Sermon: Christ is in our midst. **He is and ever shall be.**

The Intercessions: *each petition concludes:* Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

The Liturgy of Holy Communion

Sanctus: *40, Isaiah, Mighty Seer, in Days of Old*

**C: Isaiah, mighty seer, in days of old
The Lord of all in Spirit did behold
High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,
With flowing train that filled the Temple quite.
Above the throne were stately seraphim,
Six wings had they, these messengers of Him.
With twain they veiled their faces, as was meet,
With twain in reverent awe they hid their feet,
And with the other twain aloft they soared,
One to the other called and praised the Lord:
"Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Behold, His glory filleth all the earth!"
The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,
And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.**

**Now let us to the Lord lift up our hearts
By faith which God the Holy Ghost imparts,
Now let us with the angel host unite,
And with the company of saints in light,
To bring our thanks and praise to God our Lord
Almighty, Everlasting, Gracious God.
For all creation's splendor, earth and light;**

**For our redemption and eternal life,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ our King
Whose gracious Name we magnify and sing:
“Holy is God, the Lord of pow’r and might!
Holy is God, the Lord of pow’r and might!
Holy is God, the Lord of pow’r and might!
His love and glory filleth heav’n and earth!
Blest is the One who comes in God’s own Name,
Hosanna! Save us, Lord! Your grace we claim!”**

Lord’s Prayer (spoken together)

P: Taught by our Lord and trusting in His saving promises, we are bold to pray:

C: Our Father...

Words of Institution: pp. 77-79

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei: 41, Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

*When the Pastor turns and elevates the Host and Cup, the congregation **may** bow as an act of reverent worship toward the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.*

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

**C: Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!**

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!**

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus!**

Distribution of the Body & Blood of Christ to the Faithful

Hymn of Thanksgiving: 327, *O Lord, We Praise Thee*

**C: O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead In all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!**

**Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us! O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid; Peace with God once more is made:
O Lord, have mercy.**

**May God bestow on us His grace and favor
To please Him with our behavior
And live as brethren here in love and union
Nor repent this blest Communion! O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heavenly-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see Days of peace and unity:
O Lord, have mercy!**

Collect of Thanksgiving: p. 83

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

Dismissal Hymn: *25, O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace* (Tune: 538)

**C: O Holy Spirit, grant us grace That we our Lord and Savior
In faith and fervent love embrace And truly serve Him ever,
So that when death is drawing nigh, We to His open wounds may fly
And find in them salvation.**

**Help us that we Thy saving Word In faithful hearts may treasure;
Let e'er that Bread of Life afford New grace in richest measure.
Yea, let us die to every sin, For heaven create us new within
That fruits of faith may flourish.**

**And when our earthly race is run, Death's bitter hour impending,
Then may Thy work in us begun Continue till life's ending,
Until we gladly may commend Our souls into our Savior's hand
To rest in peace eternal.**

Our Life Together

THE PASTOR IS AVAILABLE for private Confession & Absolution, and for confidential pastoral counseling, or just to chat. Please feel free to stop in. (The Augsburg Confession teaches that “[private] Confession is not abolished among us. ... Our people are taught that they should highly prize the Absolution as being God’s voice and pronounced by God’s command. ... They are reminded what great consolation it brings to anxious consciences. ... They are taught that faith in Christ truly obtains and receives the forgiveness of sins.” Article 25)

Bible Studies: Last Sunday we read about half of a brief paper by a famous Lutheran theologian entitled *Liturgy and the Delivery of a Good Conscience: Our Earthly Reception of Heavenly Gifts*. We humans relate to God in and through the conscience. The conscience, then, – a bad conscience or a good conscience – is really the chief focus of the Christian faith and life. Sin and its effects give us a bad conscience before God. God gives us a good conscience by forgiving us our sins and justifying us through the gifts of the Divine Service. From this flows everything of the Christian life. As we get into 1 John 3 & 4 in the Sunday study the conscience factors in heavily. Today we will finish the paper and then get into chapter 3 The Thursday study, this week, is in the middle of 2 Samuel 3.

Pastor & Kristen at Doxology: In two weeks (August 2-4) Pastor & Kristen will be in Kansas City for the final round of *Doxology*. This third round of *Doxology* is for the Pastor and his wife. Retired ELS Pastor Ed Bryant will be here to preach and celebrate the Divine Service.

Columbia Gorge Food Bank “Empty Bowls” Fundraiser: The CGFB is holding its annual fundraising event *Empty Bowls* at its warehouse on Friday, Oct. 18. Soup is served alongside handmade bowls, and guests keep the empty bowls as a reminder of people facing hunger worldwide. CGFB serves more than 6,000 people facing hunger each month in our community. To make this event a success, they are seeking sponsors to donate anywhere from \$500 up to \$10,000. Each level of donation comes with a different level of recognition. So if our congregation wanted to donate, besides helping this worthy charity, it would be good exposure for the church.

Church literature: Check the table in the Narthex for any new literature you may not have yet.

Feasts, Commemorations, and Events

Monday: FEAST OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, PENITENT; Pastor at Concordia

Tuesday: Pastor at Bethany; Hope Clinic Board Meeting, 5:00pm

Wednesday: Pastor at Concordia

Thursday: FEAST OF ST. JAMES THE ELDER, APOSTLE;
Bible study at Bethany, 10am

Friday: Pastor at Bethany

Saturday: Pastor's Day Off

Next Sunday: *The Ninth Sunday After Trinity*
Concordia Service of the Word, 9:00am
Bethany Holy Communion, 11:00am
Bethany Potluck & Semi-Annual Meeting, 12:15pm

Trinity 8 Hymn: Today's chief hymn, *Preserve Thy Word, O Savior* (ELH 533) was written by Andreas Gryphius (1616-1664), a theologically astute Lutheran layman, and well-known poet. His hymn is an all-embracing prayer for the preservation and extension of the Christian Church. Stanza 1 asks that God would enlarge His Kingdom. The concern is for people everywhere, and yet the concern is very personal: "Oh, keep our faith from failing." Stanza 2 is concerned with our neighbors who are not Christians: "Convince, convert, enlighten ... to all who dwell below." Stanzas 3 & 4 are then a prayer specifically for Zion – the Church itself – that she would be defended from all danger and false teaching, and be built up in the one true faith. Stanza 5 prays for that by which the Church is preserved: faithful pastors and the pure preaching of God's Word. The hymn concludes with the prayer that Christ would bring each little congregation over the wind and waves of life on the Last Day: "Thus we shall reach the harbor in Thine eternal light." This hymn is not only a prayer. It is a strong confession that the church belongs to God. He will defend and preserve His faithful people. He will extend His church according to His good will and pleasure.

Trinity 8: The relaxing lies our culture prophesies cannot even approach our Lord's promises (Jeremiah 23:16-18). We speak the Gospel of Jesus Christ boldly and gladly (Jeremiah 23:28-29), though it earns us persecution, because He sets great joy before us. In this faith we will sit around His throne with the cloud of witnesses His Word saved.

Prayer: *Lamb of God, You have given me Your people's crown of life; forge in me Your prophets' faith. Amen.*

Life Thoughts in the Church Year/One Year Lectionary – Lutherans For Life

Why do we worship on Sunday?

Actually, in apostolic times, the Church was at prayer together daily, according to Acts 2: *They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship: the breaking of the bread and the prayers.* Even so, they reserved Sunday for the high feast, inasmuch as they recognized Sunday, the first day of the week, as the day when Christ rose from the dead. The Sabbath had been Saturday, of course, but this was fulfilled when Christ rested in the tomb on Holy Saturday. This is why the Apostle declares that Sabbaths are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ [Colossians 2:16]. So therefore Sunday became the Church's "high" day of worship, since Christ Himself not only arose on Sunday, but made His subsequent resurrected appearances also on Sundays throughout the forty days leading to His ascension. Then came Pentecost, the fiftieth day from Easter, also a Sunday. So it was Christ Himself who shifted the thinking of His people toward Sunday as the chief of days. Moreover, since, according to St. Luke's Gospel, He was recognized by the Emmaus disciples (on Sunday) in the breaking of the bread, and that phrase is repeated in Acts (see above), so it was fitting that Sunday be also the chief day on which the Holy Sacrament was offered to the people.

So it was, throughout the ages, that Holy Christendom, whether or not they assembled also on other days of the week, would always assemble every Sunday (which biblically, begins on Saturday night), in order especially to receive the Holy Sacrament in the Mass.

Therefore the orders of Matins and Vespers, as well as other non-Communion services, were really never intended as replacements for the Mass on Sunday morning. Rather, they were used either on weekdays or as pre-sacramental services. But Sunday was reserved especially for high worship, that is, for the reception of the Holy Supper.

Why? A Layman's Guide to the Liturgy – Rev. Dr. Burnell F. Eckardt, Jr.