

# THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 5, 2018

10:30 a.m.

\* All who are able may stand

Congregation reads aloud the **bold print**

## THE TIME OF CENTERING

*"... And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"*

~ Esther 4:14

## THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GATHERS

PRELUDE

OPENING SCRIPTURE

WELCOME

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

SILENCE AS THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us together from every nation and land.

**Blessed be the God of all the nations.**

Young and old, male and female, rich and poor, and of numerous colors,  
we are here together.

**Blessed be the God of all Earth's peoples.**

Here now we have gathered together for worship.

**We join as one family to worship and to celebrate in this Holy Supper.**

Come, let us worship the Lord!

## \* HYMN NO. 267

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION

**O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires. You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all.**

**Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit, so all may know your justice and peace: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.**

*A Time of Silence*

(Please take this time in silence to offer your own prayers of confession—confessing your need for God and naming those barriers that keep you from knowing life as God's beloved child.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Amen!**

\*RESPONSE (all sing)

*Spirit of the Living God*

NO. 288

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. (*Repeat*)**

\*GREETING OF PEACE

Since God has made peace with us, let us make peace with each other.  
The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

(We greet each other: "The peace of Christ be with you.")

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Liz Rowe

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Mark 7:24-30

p. 819

Esther 1:1-5, 9-13, 15-20; 2:2, 4

p. 386

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON IN STORY

*Esther*

Marie Gormley-Tarleton

\*HYMN NO. 324

*For All the Faithful Women*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*This morning we receive the offering for the Deacons' Fund. Your contributions provide immediate help to individuals in our community in financial crisis – real people, real needs, real help.*

*Any loose offering and designated checks go toward this fund. Let us give with grateful hearts.*

OFFERTORY

Concordia Soloists

Carol Lind, Bettye Shirar

\*DOXOLOGY (all sing)      **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

NO. 607

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious Spirit, you have showered us with your gifts, and we embrace you with thanksgiving. May our embrace be arms wide open, ready to share, to serve, and to love. Use our spiritual gifts that we may live the spiritual life, moving according to the Spirit's heated touch and bending in the direction of God's holy will.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*INVITATION TO THE TABLE*

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION*

O living God, For your blessing in creation, for your image deep within us,  
for your life in all its fullness,

**We give thanks.**

O Jesus our brother, For your coming to earth, for your calling of us as your  
friends, for your sharing of our life and death,

**We give you thanks.**

O Spirit of grace and truth, For revealing yourself in community, for healing us in  
our brokenness, for inspiring us with courage to share,

**We give you thanks.**

O Trinity of love, For the promise of a spreading tree giving shade and protection,  
for the vision of a body in which each part works for the health of the whole, for  
the invitation to a feast where the despised will be guests of honor,

**We give you thanks.**

For those who have blessed our lives and now live eternally with you,

**We give you thanks.**

*THE PRAYERS OF CONCERN AND BLESSING*

God of justice and peace, you stand with those who are poor.

Now, in prayers spoken and unspoken, we call upon you for those who suffer the  
injustice of violence and want . . .

*(time of silent prayer)*

*(cont'd)*

We call upon you for those who carry heavy burdens . . .

*(time of silent prayer)*

We call upon you for those we love and those who love us . . .

*(time of silent prayer)*

Where shall we go from your spirit, and how could we be away from your presence?

**If darkness covers us and night closes in on us, you are there. For the night is not dark for you but luminous as the day, and the two are one to you.**

Where shall we go from your spirit?

**Your presence is there, and here, and everywhere.**

Spirit of the living God, present with us now, breathe in us and on these gifts of bread and cup, that sharing your blessing and your broken life we may share in your continual presence and reality, and together, as your body, remain in your love. We give thanks that Jesus blessed bread, broke it and gave to us, asking us to always remember. We give thanks that at the end of the meal, Jesus took the cup and sealed a new covenant with us for all eternity.

**We share these gifts of God with all God's children as we pray the prayer your Son has taught us. Our Father...**

#### *DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS*

(All are welcome to receive communion. Please come forward for intinction.)

When you get to the Table, take a piece of bread from the tray and dip it in the cup. Eat immediately.

We serve grape juice instead of wine and offer gluten-free alternatives so that all may partake.)

*COMMUNION HYMN* (all sing)

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

NO. 525

#### *PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*

**Beloved Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past, what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. May we be your living presence in this world. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 767

*Together We Serve*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Abraham McIlvaine, organ

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**We welcome storyteller Marie Gormley-Tarleton** who will present “Esther” in first-person narrative. For 21 years, Mrs. Gormley-Tarleton has been a dramatic teller and impersonator of religious, literary, and historical tales for all ages—preschool to senior citizens—in a variety of venues. She wears hats of many colors in more than 50 different programs.

**Welcome visitors!** We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Please record your name, address, and phone number/email on one of the Connection Cards in the pew and introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave. *All are invited to join us for light refreshments and fellowship after church in the back of the Sanctuary.*

**Assisting in the service of worship are:**

**Deacon-in-Charge:** Steve Studer

**Liturgist:** Wes Diemer

**Ushers:** Jan Moore, Liz Rowe

**Communion Servers:** Troy Gehret, Gayle Hazel, Barbara Wise

**The flowers today** are given to the glory of God by Ginnie Mayforth in celebration of her children Donna, Peter, Robin, and Kristen.

**Weekly Prayer List (follows directory):**

Debbie & John Barineau

Denise Becker

Betty & Bill Bates

Alma Bergmann

**Summer Worship for Children:** Children are always welcome in worship at Concord. During the summer months, we will continue to have a Children’s Sermon and a Children’s Corner (with coloring, puzzles, and other quiet activities); however, no childcare will be offered.

**Summer Music Programming:** Our outstanding Chancel Choir sings regularly in Sunday services September-May. During the summer, they receive a well-deserved respite. We traditionally use this time to foster our own talented musicians with solo and small ensemble opportunities, while also welcoming some highly accomplished professional and aspiring young guest artists. The Chancel Choir will resume weekly rehearsals and their regular role as worship music leaders in early September. Until then, enjoy our featured artists!



### **Summer Office Hours**

Tuesday – Thursday, 10:00am-3:00pm

Closed Monday & Friday

## Concord now accepts donations via several electronic methods:

- Scanning the QR code with your smart phone will connect you with a Concord website page to allow **credit card** donations
- Use **PayPal** to send a donation to Concord at [donations@concordpc.org](mailto:donations@concordpc.org)
- Use your personal **banking app** (utilizing Zelle®) to send a cash donation to [donations@concordpc.org](mailto:donations@concordpc.org). (Examples of banks utilizing Zelle® are Wells Fargo, PNC, TD, M&T, Bank of America, Citi, etc.)



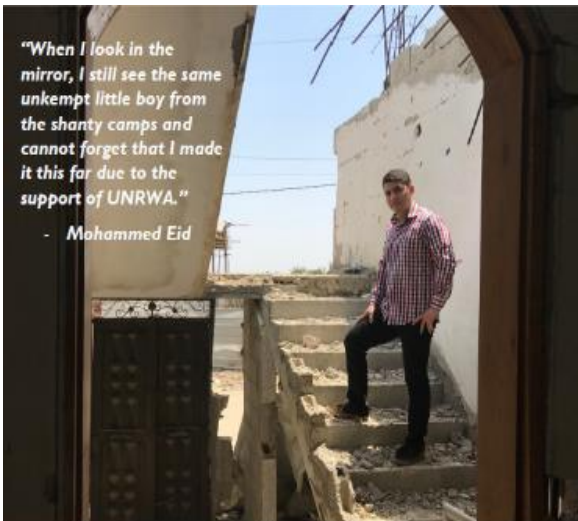
**Come visit us on Facebook...** for photos, announcements, events, and engaging questions. If something catches your eye or touches your heart, "like" it or share it with friends.

**Unable to make it to a worship service?** Recordings of current sermons are available online at <http://concordpc.org/service-recordings/>.



Whether you are a visitor, occasional attendee, or current/former/prospective member, **you can stay connected to the people, plans, and possibilities of Concord by subscribing to our weekly *Concord Connects* e-newsletter.** Just write a note on a Connection Card, along with your name and email address, and place it in the offering.

**Pastoral Care: The Rev. Kathie Pownall** is currently providing pastoral care for our Concord family and would love to visit anyone – not just in times of crisis. If you would like a visit, contact her at 302/373-7127 or [kspownallkathie@aol.com](mailto:kspownallkathie@aol.com) to set up a time. **Kathie will be on vacation August 3-13. For pastoral care visits or emergencies while Kathie is away, please contact Pastor Elizabeth Lyman (302/654-9557 or 215/622-8187).**



## *Living in Gaza - How UNRWA Has Helped*

A talk given by Mohammed Eid, a 28-year-old Palestinian refugee, who grew up in Rafah camp in the Gaza Strip.

**Tues., Aug. 7, 6:30pm  
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church**

Please visit <http://www.delphr.org/>  
for additional information.

**COMING THIS FALL: COVENANT BIBLE STUDY**  
(IN COLLABORATION WITH THREE OTHER AREA CHURCHES)



**COVENANT IS AN IN-DEPTH GROUP BIBLE STUDY IN WHICH PARTICIPANTS READ AND DISCUSS THE BIBLE TOGETHER, LEARNING HOW TO LOVE GOD – AND EACH OTHER – BETTER.**

Three 8-episode segments each explore a different aspect of Covenant life. Each will examine what Covenant means, and the progression of a Covenant relationship with God.

- **CREATING:** Examines how the Covenant community is created and established.
- **LIVING:** Focuses on how the community lives out their Covenant in faithful love – how it's applied to actual relationships in everyday life.
- **TRUSTING:** Looks at the crises that sometimes call Covenant life into question, and how we are restored to trust in God when troubling things happen.

Covenant represents a relationship – a living, breathing conversation. And we invite you to join in it. There will be classes a few different times each week at various locations. **The class held here at Concord will meet Monday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm in Jessie's Room or the Sanctuary Lounge, beginning September 10, 2018.** Led by Rev. Elizabeth Lyman and Carol Lind.

**What's the commitment?** 90-minute class once/week; 24 weeks from fall through early spring (4 weeks on, 1 week off); daily Bible reading (about 20-30 minutes/day). Check out the website: [www.covenantbiblestudy.com](http://www.covenantbiblestudy.com).

**Cost and deadline:** \$25 (includes 3 participant books). Make checks payable to *St. Mark's Lutheran Church* and mail check with response card (outside the Church Office) to 501 Duncan Road, Wilmington, DE 19809. **Deadline to sign up: Friday, August 31, 2018.**

## CALENDAR

<b>Sunday, August 5</b>		<b>Storyteller Marie Gormley-Tarleton</b>
	<b>Communion, Deacons' Fund Offering</b>	
10:30 am	Worship in the Sanctuary	
<b>Monday, August 6</b>		<b>Church Office closed</b>
	<b>FH Breakfast Closet Delivery</b>	
9:00 am	Diaspora Prayer Group	
<b>Tuesday, August 7</b>		
9:30 am	Emmanuel Dining Room South	
7:00 pm	New Life AA – Fellowship Hall	
<b>Wednesday, August 8</b>		
9:30 am	Mug & Muffin Bible Study – Sanctuary Lounge	
12:00 pm	Women's AA – Jessie's Room	
7:00 pm	SAGA AA – Fellowship Hall	
7:00 pm	Finance – Jessie's Room	
<b>Friday, August 10</b>		<b>Church Office closed</b>
<b>Saturday, August 11</b>		
7:00 pm	Step Solutions AA (Fellowship Hall)	
<b>Sunday, August 12</b>		<b>Rev. Elizabeth Lyman preaching</b>
10:30 am	Worship in the Sanctuary	
<b>Monday, August 13</b>		<b>Church Office closed</b>
9:00 am	Diaspora Prayer Group	
1:00 pm	Prayer Shawls – Sanctuary Lounge	

### Mark Your Calendars (Upcoming Events):

<b>Wednesday, August 15:</b>	<b><i>September Courier Deadline</i></b>
<b>Sunday, September 9</b>	<b><i>Homecoming Sunday, Church-Wide Picnic</i></b>
<b>Sunday, October 7</b>	<b><i>World Communion Sunday</i></b>
<b>Saturday, October 13</b>	<b><i>Hayride – Bellevue State Park</i></b>

## CONCORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Christina Pressley, Director of Children's & Youth Ministries [christina.pressley@concordpc.org](mailto:christina.pressley@concordpc.org)

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