

Serving 9:30AM	TODAY April 27
Announcements	Pastor Joe
Coffee Set Up	Ann Nollet
Coffee Clean Up	Diana and Jim Campbell
Media Audio	Chris Imming
Media Advance Slides	Scott Macdonald
Reader	Kathy Kishbaugh
Ushers	Adam Bonnette, Charlie Ciulla

Serving 8:15AM	Next week May 4th	Serving 10:30AM	Next Week May 4th
Announcements	Adam Bonnette	Announcements	Jon Hearth
Coffee Set Up	Ann Nollet	Coffee Clean Up	Diana and Jim Campbell
Altar Care Set Up	Kathy Kishbaugh	Altar Care Clean Up	Marilyn Perry
Communion Servers	Hank Betts, Levi Kishbaugh	Communion Servers	Lars Anderson, Don Kingston
Media Advance Slides	Gary Terhune	Media Audio Media Advance Slides	Joel Trunfio, Ellie Sienkiewicz
Reader	Nancy Dashcund	Reader	David Batchelder
Ushers	Ryan Machain, Joe Reale	Ushers	Dian Kingston, Ed Melin

Life...
to the Fullest!

Kids Connection 9:30AM	May 4th
Elementary	Peggy Hothem, Brian Wells
Pre K-K	Kathy Kishbaugh, Richie Minozzi



Today after worship... a Members meeting

There will be a "Vision Team" update and a "Listening to your Ideas" format to responsibly gather info, ideas, thoughts, feedback from all the flock. As possibilities for recommendations are being talked through and planned it's good to keep all updated and to recruit ideas for how to best steward and impact the world with the Fine gift. Ideas and suggestions can be sent to Adam Bonnette anytime as well.

Mega Sports and Arts Week

Help spread the word! This is a significant way that we make connections and relationships into our community... please spread a postcard... and also make sure your calendar has a day or two free to help out!
Aug 4-7th 9:am to 2:00pm

TODAY... is a good day to introduce or reintroduce yourself to someone you worship with. Maybe you don't know them or maybe just having trouble with a name...it's okay we all do that! Let's err on the side of reintroducing and moving forward with names and faces connected!

Enjoy... we're church together! !

Some Dates...

5/18 Annual Information Meeting between services
6 /8 Unity Service 9:30 with Annual Congregational Meeting
6/22 Last Sunday of Kid's Connection
6/29 Start of Summer Unity Services 9:30 am

We started a series before Lent to grow in understanding our Lutheran walk as Christians... we pick it back up here...

Learning about the “Lutheran Confessions”

The Book of Concord is a big deal... it's the book that binds us together as Lutherans. Aligning with the summary of doctrine in these writings is what makes someone ... Lutheran. As a church in the **Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**, this is the grounding spot of how we share Scripture and the norms of a disciple's life. It is the driver of our practices and impacts how we operate in the world today.



“What about worship”?

What makes Lutheran worship.. “Lutheran”?

Throughout different centuries, and countries, there are experiences, traditions, and preferences to worship practices. These play out into questions about “what is appropriate... or “Lutheran”.? **LCMS seminary professor Joel Biermann** speaks to that point... *“I’ve got a simple straightforward answer... what makes Lutheran worship Lutheran... is when Lutheran are worshipping”*. There is no checklist of “*this is needed... or that..*” when God’s gifts, His Word and Sacrament, are shared in an understandable, meaningful way... with correct doctrine... this is Lutheran worship. It can look a lot of different ways.. and that is a very Lutheran thing!

How do the “Confessions” impact this.

The “Book of Concord” is a collection of documents. In SD under “Church Usages” is stated *“the community of God in each place has the right, authority, and power to change, reduce, or increase ceremonies according to it’s circumstances.”*. The freedom of the Good News is a driving force to this. In the 1500’s there were there were many pressures to influence the Lutheran Church, from Rome or Switzerland, resulting in debates about worship and conformity in practice.

It is interesting to note that the more liberal followers, wanting to appease Rome and Reformed, sought out uniformity and norms of practice as a way to compromise and show solidarity with other Christians.

Those that were more conservative in the doctrine, as outlined in the Lutheran Confessions, saw this as a path to possibly compromise the freedom of the Gospel and emphasized freedom in worship practices within good order.

That freedom is emphasized in the Formula of Concord article 10 *“we unanimously believe teach and confess that ceremonies or ecclesiastical practices that are neither commanded nor forbidden in God’s word but have been established only for good order and decorum are in and of themselves neither worship ordained by God nor part of such worship”*.

The summary point is that the Church of God... is free to develop practices, worship styles, and norms that are local to that time and place. The most important consideration is to exalt the gospel! Whatever a church is doing... it should be proclaiming Christ and driving HIM home in understandable ways so people can know that Christ is their Lord, that their sins are forgiven, that His promises belong to them, and learning what it means to follow Christ in life!

That’s what Lutheran worship is all about in this community, and this time, and place we find ourselves. The Lutheran Confession are a big deal... in grounding us in this truth as we look for ways to carry out our task given in Scripture and connect and communicate Christ to a word that doesn’t know HIM!

You can read the “Book of Concord” (the Lutheran Confessions) on-line using a link right on our web site. The documents are all there to explore through... **ENJOY**

Pastor Joe

Find videos, articles, and sermons on our web site as well...

www.oslcma.com