

Concordia Lutheran Church

“A Christian family who cares for one another”
Trinity/Confirmation Sunday – May 18, 2008 – 10:00 AM



7291 Sarah Street
Maplewood, Missouri

(314) 647-1215
(314) 646-1255 fax

concordiamaplewood@sbcglobal.net

Rev. Lew Ensor, Pastor (314) 578-5126 (cell)

Our Mission: “To be united in Word and Sacrament through the regular worship of the Triune God and the study of His Word, we at Concordia Lutheran Church, Maplewood, Missouri are called to reach out in love and service to this community with the message of free grace, love and salvation found only in Christ Jesus.”

To our Guests...Regarding Holy Communion

We are happy that you have chosen to worship with us today as we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion.

The apostle Paul encourages us: *“Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.”* 1 Cor. 11:28

Participation in the Lord’s Supper at our altar is an expression of the faith confessed at our altar. We ask that those who plan to partake of our Lord’s body and blood for the forgiveness of their sins and the strengthening of their faith be:

- Baptized Christians;
- Who have received instruction in the Biblical teaching of the Lord’s Supper as taught by the Lutheran church;
- Who are truly sorry for their sins, and believe that the true body and blood of Christ are received with the bread and the wine, according to Christ’s plain words.

Our congregation is a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and subscribes to the confession of faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church recorded in the Book of Concord of 1580.

For those who doubt, or are unsure of their confession of faith, we ask that you refrain from participation until you have spoken with the pastor, who is eager to talk with you.

We offer Communion wine in either the individual cup or the chalice at every Communion service. Nonalcoholic wine fills the cups in the middle of each tray. If you wish to drink from the chalice (common cup), please do not take an individual cup, which comes first. The chalice will follow.

Please note: If you are suffering physical limitations, please come forward to the first pew on either side of the sanctuary and The Lord’s Supper will be served there.

TRINITY/CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

May 18, 2008

10:00 AM (Worship Service with Holy Communion – pg. 158 LW)

TOLLING OF THE BELL

GREETING AND WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION

“Holy, Holy, Holy” 168 LW

Please stand.

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

As we make confession, we may remain standing, sit or kneel. In preparation for our confession, we silently reflect on God's Word and take this opportunity for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Pastor: The Lord be with you. (*spoken*)

People: And also with you. (*sung*)

Pastor: We now join together in praying the collect for the day. Let us pray...

People: **Almighty and everlasting God, since you have given us, your servants, grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith, and to worship the true Unity in the power of your divine majesty, keep us also steadfast in this true faith and worship, and defend us ever from all our adversaries; for you, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen. *Please sit.***

Lector: **THE FIRST READING** for Trinity Sunday is from the 1st Chapter of Genesis, verses 1-2:3.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day. And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day. And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of

the sky.” So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day. And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Holy Is the Lord”

Lector: **THE SECOND READING** is from the 13th Chapter of 2 Corinthians, verses 11-14.

Finally, brothers, good-bye. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints send their greetings. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. *Please stand.*

VERSE (*sung- page 164*)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia. *Please stand.*

Pastor: **THE HOLY GOSPEL** according to St. Matthew. The 28th Chapter, verses 16-20.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ. *Please sit.*

Pastor: We now join in singing "Abide with Me" 490 LW.

SERMON

"A Forgotten Focus" *Matthew 28:16-20*

NICENE CREED *(Please stand.) (The Latin word "Creed" means "I believe." A Creed is a statement of what we believe, teach and confess. The creeds of the church proclaim a living and wonderful faith that comes from God.)*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs...

Pastor: Lord in Your Mercy...

People: Hear our prayer. *(respond after each prayer)*

Pastor: Into your hands, o Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen. *Please sit.*

RECEPTION OF OFFERINGS AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(Give Thanks 41 W & P)**(As the plates are carried forward, please stand and sing.)*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

*(Congregation may be seated.)***PROFESSION OF FAITH BY CONFIRMAND**

Pastor: Dear Brittany, we rejoice that through the pastoral and educational ministry given, you now desire to make public profession of your faith and to assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and work for the mission of the church in the world. Lift up your heart therefore to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what, in the name of the Lord, as a minister of His Church, I now shall ask you... Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts which God gave you in your Baptism?

Brittany: I do.

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

Brittany: I do.

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

Brittany: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

Brittany: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He Descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Brittany: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Pastor: Do you intend to continue in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

Brittany: I do so intend with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you hold all prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

Brittany: I do.

Pastor: Do you desire to be a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation?

Brittany: I do.

Pastor: Do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the divine Word, to be faithful in the use of God's Word and Sacraments, which are his means of grace, and in faith, word, and action to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit even to death?

Brittany: I do so intend by the grace of God.

Pastor: Give then your hands as pledge of your promise, and kneel to receive the blessing... Brittany, God, the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, gives you His Holy Spirit, the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge, of grace and prayer, of power and strength, of sanctification and the fear of God... Upon this your profession and promise I invite and welcome you, as a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation, to share with us in all the gifts our Lord has for his Church and to live them out continually in His worship and service. Let us all stand and pray together for the newly confirmed.

All: Lord God, Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for your great goodness in bringing Brittany, your child, to the knowledge of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling her, both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess his saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, she may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Pastor: The Almighty and most Merciful God, Father, † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and keep you.

All: Amen.

DUET

“Go with God”

PREFACE (*spoken*)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary ... evermore praising you and saying:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

(*sung*) **God of pow'r and might:**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us children of men and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts that he may establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to remember our Redeemer and receive him who comes to us in his body and blood.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me. In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you

AGNUS DEI (*Sung by all – page 172*)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace. *Please sit.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS (*The distribution hymns have been printed for your convenience, feel free to bring your bulletin with you so you may sing along, as you wait on line for your turn at the communion rail.*)

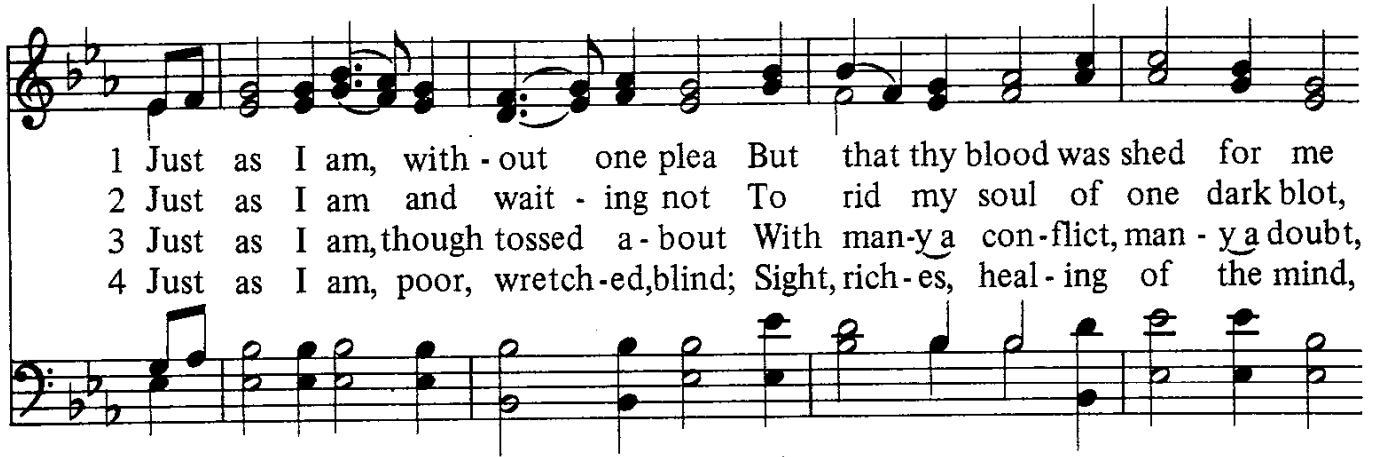
"Come, O Almighty King"

169 LW

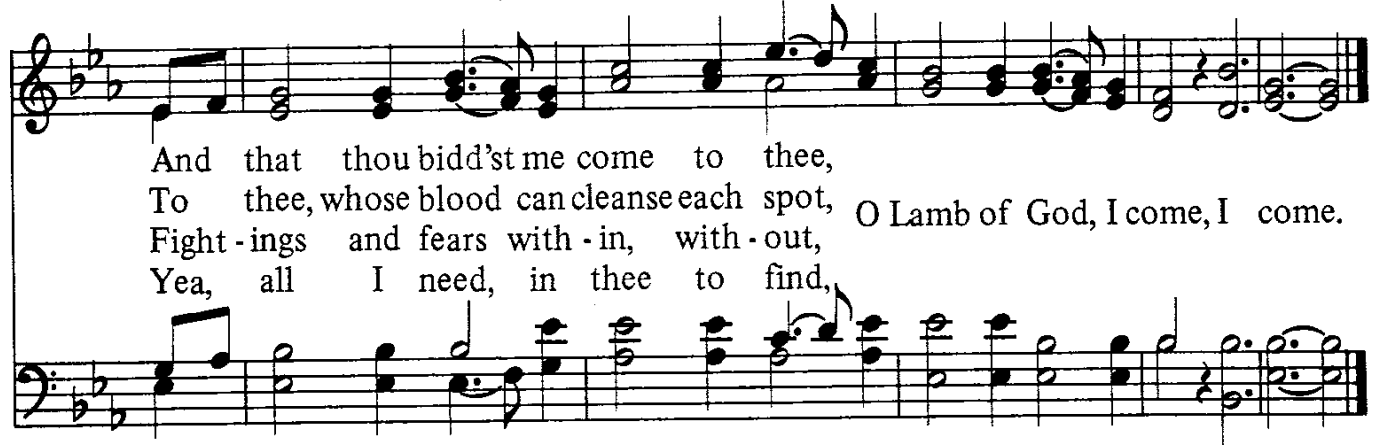
1 Come, O al - might - y King, Help us your name to sing;
 2 Come, O in - car - nate Word, Gird on your might - y sword;
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, Your sa - cred wit - ness bear
 4 To the great One in Three E - ter - nal prais - es be

Help us to praise; Fa - ther all - glo - ri - ous, In all vic -
 Our prayer at - tend. Come and your peo - ple bless, And give your
 In this glad hour! Your sev'n-fold gifts im - part; Rule now in
 Hence ev - er - more! Your sov - 'reign maj - es - ty May we in

to - ri - ous, Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 Word suc - cess, And let your righ - teous - ness On us de - scend.
 ev - 'ry heart; Nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
 glo - ry see And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that thy blood was shed for me
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my soul of one dark blot,
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a con - flict, man - y a doubt,
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,



And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
Fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,

5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (*Please stand – page173*)

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Pastor: Let us pray...

All: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same 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 God, now and forever. Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

CLOSING HYMN

“Glory Be to God the Father” 173 LW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Let's Pray This Week:

Our world and nation: Father, we pray that You would bind us together in unity through the power of the Holy Spirit. Make us bold in the proclamation of your saving Word. Help us to be obedient to your Word and to serve you. We are a people alive with the spirit – because Your Son died and is now risen, and because we have been baptized into His death and resurrection, we to will be raised. Lord, help your Easter people to trust fully in your saving work and help us to be obedient to your will. Reveal to us the risen Savior who offered himself upon the cross to win eternal life and salvation for those who believe in His name. Grow us in your Word and help us to fulfill the mission to which you have called us – to baptize, teach and to reach out to the lost. We ask that you would care for the people of China as they suffer the devastating losses due to earthquakes... and guard the families suffering at the hands of nature through storm and pestilence. Cleanse our sinful hearts, and strengthen us in our weak moments. Make us bold as members of our communities to see clearly and to speak for the weak and the powerless. And when we are reviled for the sake of Christ let your Spirit call to our minds that we are blessed. Extend your healing touch and compassionate embrace to the sick, especially strengthen any among us who have become weak in faith. Guard those who are suffering the ravages of nature in flood and storms... we ask that you provide for all their needs and give the people faith in the power and love of the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Accept our prayers for all the Churches of the LCMS, Lutheran Blind Mission, and the Paul family and for the mission of the Hoech's to the Dungan people. Amen.

People in need of hope and healing: Aaron R... Donna L... PJ L... John B... Kerry S...

People who celebrate birthdays this week: Gloria F... Margaret H... Delores G... Hailie C...

Flowers are placed to the glory of God and in honor of His blessing on the Confirmation of Brittany M, by her parents.

Serving in God's House This Day

Preacher:	Rev. Lew Ensor
Organist:	Russ Henkhaus
Altar Guild:	Anna M & Carol M
Duet:	Yvonne C & Deborah Lee
Trumpeter:	Deborah Lee
Lay Reader:	Jacqueline V
Greeter:	Anna M, Gladys G & Carol E
Ushers:	Andy W, Charles V & Don J

Our Church Staff need your continual prayers for them and their families. Remember them in your daily prayers. They are: Pastor Lew Ensor... Pastor John Rhoads... organist, Russ Henkhaus... secretary, Tina M... custodian, Zach ...

Below are the various events hosted by our church in the coming weeks. Everyone is invited to attend these activities and we hope you'll attend. If you need more information or have questions, please call the contact numbers listed with each activity or call the church office at (314) 647-1215.

This Week at Concordia

- Today:** *Trinity Sunday / Confirmation Sunday*
8:45 AM – Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
10:00 AM – Worship Service with Holy Communion
- Monday:** 9:15 AM – Circuit Pastor's meeting (here)
- Tuesday:** 6:00 PM – Council meets as our Constitution Committee
6:30 PM – Choir rehearsal
7:00 PM – Council meeting
- Wednesday:** 12:30 PM – Staff meeting
- Sunday:** 8:45 AM – Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
10:00 AM – Worship Service with Holy Communion

Our Responses To God's Love Last Week

Sunday Worship 10:00AM 52 Communed 40
Sunday School – 0 & Adult Bible Class – 4

Who is the Holy Spirit? As the Explanation to the Small Catechism says, the Holy Spirit is “the third person in the Holy Trinity, true God with Father and Son.” This means that we believe in one true God, but three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. From this we can see that the Holy Spirit is God, just as the Father is God and the Son is God. ***What does the Holy Spirit do?*** The Holy Spirit “sanctifies” God’s people. In other words, He “makes us holy” by giving us saving faith in Jesus as well as the strength to lead Godly lives in His name. ***Why is the Holy Spirit so important?*** We need the Holy Spirit and what He has given us because without Him, we are not able to believe in Jesus. In 1 Corinthians 2:14, Paul writes, “The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them.” The Holy Spirit calls us to faith through the Gospel and delivers the gracious gifts of salvation in the Sacraments. *For parents: During the service, help you children to listen for times when the pastor says the name of the Holy Spirit. Remind your children that the Holy Spirit is exactly where He promises to be – in His Word and Sacraments. In fact, He comes to us by no other means than through these gracious gifts.*

Attention Kids Weekly Bulletins are especially prepared for you and are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. There are two formats, one for ages 3-6 and one for ages 7-12. Pick up a copy for yourself each Sunday.

Ascension Lutheran Church Rummage Sale to benefit the children of Lt. Robert Cooney, a St. Louis City policeman, who passed away suddenly on February 19, 2008 due to a tragic accident at home. All proceeds will be applied toward tuition assistance for the Cooney children for the 2008-2009 school year: Sarah, a freshman at Lutheran High South and Sean, a 6th grader at Word of Life Lutheran School. The sale will be held in the Word of Life School gym at 6535 Eichelberger on **June 7, 2008**, from **8:00 am to 3:00 pm**. From 2:00-3:00 there will be a \$1.00 bag sale. Won't you come and find some "good junk" while supporting this worthwhile cause. Matching funds have been approved through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.