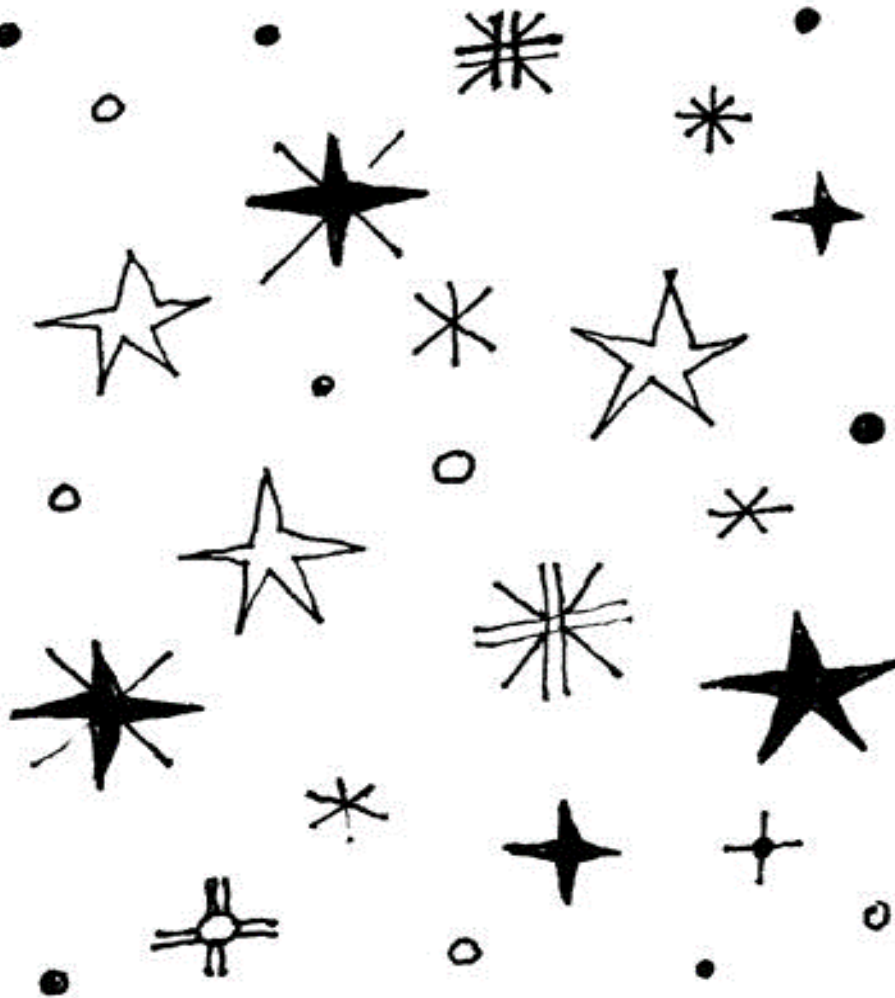




Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



We Welcome you to Worship!

August 10, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

The People of Covenant are called to:

Gather, Grow and Go Serve

...With God's Love!

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for Worship today!

WORSHIP ORDER – Sunday, August 10, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

*Congregation participation in **bold** in bulletin*

ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship 'red' Hymn Book, Setting 8

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Land Acknowledgment

Covenant Lutheran Church acknowledges and honors the Indigenous Peoples and their ancestral homelands on which we gather. We stand on stolen ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and the many other Indigenous Nations that have been historical occupants here. We respect Native Americans as caretakers of this land and Mother Earth. We strive to emulate the stewardship they first demonstrated. We embrace Indigenous People in love and gratitude. May we always seek a greater understanding of the Native community and their history as a whole as we aspire to work in meaningful partnership.

Welcome

Call to Worship

The Lord comes to us this day. Are you ready?

We are ready!

The Lord challenges us to be in ministries of peace and hope.

Are you ready?

We are ready!

Let us praise God who calls us to serve God by helping others.

Praise be to God who has given us hope and peace. Amen.

Children's Time

Gathering Hymn

Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying

ELW 436

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

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Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6

A reading from Genesis, the fifteenth chapter.

¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 33:12-22

A reading from Psalm thirty-three.

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

¹³**The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.**

¹⁴From where he sits enthroned he watches
all the inhabitants of the earth —

**¹⁵he who fashions the hearts of them all,
and observes all their deeds.**

¹⁶A king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

**¹⁷The war horse is a vain hope for victory,
and by its great might it cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,

¹⁹to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

²⁰Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield.

²¹Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

²²Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

A reading from Hebrews, the eleventh chapter.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered himself faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." ¹³ All

of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” The Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

Hymn of the Day

Have No Fear, Little Flock

ELW 764

Prayers of Intercession

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world. *A brief silence.*

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be on those in need especially (See Prayer Insert) < full 5 second pause >. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Exchange of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.

Announcements

Offering Prayer

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of Holy Communion

Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Holy Holy

p. 190

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God p. 191

The King of Love My Shepherd Is ELW 502

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet ELW 523

Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW 618

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.



Care to contribute to our Church and ministries?

Scan this QR Code to give digitally with Vanco Online Giving.

Or visit www.covluth.org and click 'On-line Giving'!

(Electronic donations from a debit/credit card now accepted.)



Announcements:

- ✝ Thank you for being at Worship! More events and Worship opportunities at Covluth.org
- ✝ **Hospitality NEEDS our help!** The Team is looking for those interested in serving this way
- ✝ **Bible Study meeting** at 530pm Wednesday Evenings **Aug 13 and 20** in the Gateway room
- ✝ **Covenant Book Group- Aug 14 at 1pm-** for more info email bookgroup@covluth.org
- ✝ **Red Cross Blood Drive Aug 25 1-6pm**, Give blood to receive incentives while supplies last!
- ✝ **The office will be closed in honor of Labor Day Sept 1-** Love to you this holiday and always!
- ✝ **Lunch Bunch- 1st Wed at 11:30am- Sept 3** for location info contact Ann Nelson or the office
- ✝ **Sept 7- God's Work Our Hands, Rally Day and Blessing of the Quilts- Let's Work Together!**
- ✝ **Feeding the Hungry-** 2nd Fri of the month- **Sept 12** 10:30a-1:30p at St. Marks in Madison
- ✝ **Social Action Team** meets Monday **Sept 15 at 630pm** in the Gateway Room- You're Invited
- ✝ **Covenant Book Group- Sept 18 at 1pm-** for information email bookgroup@covluth.org

WORSHIP NOTES

Pastor: *Wendy Moen*; **Acolyte:** *Ronnie Stensrud*;

Greeter/s: *George Criag, Laura Just*;

Assistant Minister: *Kathy Andrusz*;

Lector: *Jessica Diebold*;

Communion Assistant: *Rhetta and Sam Smith*;

Ushers: *Judy and Matthew Heil, Russ Horton, Sue Richards Jean and Norm Sime*;

Altar Guild: *Susan Diebold*;

Communion Prep: *Karen Hanson-Cook and Bill Cook*;

Organist/Pianist: *Michelle Osterhaus*;

Sound/projection: *Jude Surrell*;

Altar Flowers: *A great way to celebrate any occation with your church family!*

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