

APRIL 26, 2026

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH

REV. JIM THELEN SR. PASTOR

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION

www.marcolutheran.org/foundation

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

office@marcolutheran.org

TO CONTACT CHURCH STAFF: PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT

(239) 394-0332

525 N. COLLIER BLVD.

MARCO ISLAND, FL 34145

www.marcolutheran.org

Our Mission Statement:

“At Marco Lutheran Church, we are followers of Jesus Christ who share His Good News by loving and serving all people.”

WORSHIP HOURS:

SUNDAY 9:30 a.m.



THE SHIP OF THE CHURCH For Christians, since the days of the apostles, *THE SHIP* has been a symbol for the Christian Church. The mast and yardarm form a simple *CROSS* (in wood) which stands for Jesus who saved us by giving Himself on a cross that we might be forgiven.

The *CHI RHO* ☩ (in metal) is a combination of the first two Greek letters of the name *Christ*, meaning "The Anointed One" or "The Messiah." *THE WAVES* symbolize the troubles and difficulties of life on earth. *THE SAILS* are filled with wind, a symbol of the Holy Spirit, which empowers the Church. Thus, the Christian Church, under the Cross of Christ carries the faithful safely across the troubled seas of life to heaven. As we come together for worship, the cross of Christ is before us. We choose, you and I, to worship with people for whom the cross is both the sign of salvation and the sign of Christ in our lives.

A special welcome to our guests today. May you find grace and blessing in the time we spend together. If you are looking for a church home, please speak to the Pastor, the Lay Minister for the day, or an Usher. We would be most pleased to share with you ways in which you might become a regular part of our Christian fellowship.

HOLY COMMUNION – WHAT WE BELIEVE



In this Sacrament, Jesus gives us Himself, His true Body and Blood as we receive the bread and wine. On the night He was betrayed and before He was put to death, Jesus celebrated this Meal with His disciples assuring us that each time we receive it, we are again remembering His death and receiving the full benefits of His grace, namely the forgiveness of sin.

In 1 Corinthians 11, St. Paul says that we should “examine ourselves” ahead of time. We can do so each time by asking ourselves these basic questions:

- † **Do I acknowledge the fact that I am indeed a sinner and that I am sorry for my sin?**
- † **Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from all sin?**
- † **Am I trusting in Jesus’ promise that I receive full pardon and strength through this Holy Meal?**
- † **Do I believe that the body and blood of Jesus is truly present in, with and under the bread and the wine of Holy Communion?**
- † **Finally, with the Lord’s help, will I seek to amend my life and live in conformity with His Holy Will?**

Jesus Himself invites baptized followers, who believe in Him as their Lord and Savior, who recognize their sinful condition and who seek His forgiveness, to come to His Table to receive His precious Body and Blood. May the Lord bless your personal reception as well as your daily living under His power and blessing. Should you have questions, please see a Pastor or a Lay minister prior to the worship service. If you prefer not to participate in the sacrament, please cross your arms when coming forward to receive a blessing.

For those who prefer, **white grape juice is in the center of the tray.** There are also **gluten free wafers** by informing a distributing Host. For those who may have **difficulty coming to the front,** please **inform an usher** so that the Sacrament may be brought to you.

AS WE GATHER

In the weeks following Easter, we walk with the disciples—and discover that the risen Jesus is not finished speaking, guiding, and caring for His people. Beginning with the empty tomb in Gospel of John 20, we find the disciples afraid and uncertain... and yet Jesus comes and stands among them. “Peace be with you,” He says. And everything begins to change. From that moment forward, Jesus continues to meet His people right where they are. He reminds us that we will know His voice, like sheep who recognize their shepherd. He assures us that He will be with us always, even to the very end of the age.

As we move into May, we are blessed by guest preachers who will bring God’s Word to us, and we continue to hear the promises of Jesus spoken into our daily lives. In a world filled with anxiety, He gives us peace that the world cannot give. In the midst of worry, He calls us to trust in our heavenly Father. And when we are weary and burdened, He invites us to come to Him and find true rest.

As we gather, we are reminded that the resurrection is not just something that happened it is something that continues. The living Jesus is still speaking. Still leading. Still comforting. Still inviting.
And His promises are for you.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

Please Stand and Face the Cross

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE AND SING



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry That love, that life which
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to - day with



of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
strew His way; Let all the world re - joice and say:
can - not die, And sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
one ac - cord The life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Please be Seated

PSALM 121

Leader: I look up to the mountains does my help come from there?

People: **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!**

Leader: He will not let you stumble; the one who watches over you will not slumber.

People: **Indeed, he who watches over Israel never slumbers or sleeps.**

Leader: The Lord himself watches over you! The Lord stands beside you as your protective shade.

People: **The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon at night.**

Leader: The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life.

People: **The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go, both now and forever.**

FIRST READING

Joshua 1:1-9

Leader: After the death of Moses the LORD's servant, the LORD spoke to Joshua's son of Nun, Moses' assistant. He said, ² "Moses my servant is dead. Therefore, the time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land I am giving them. ³ I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you— ⁴ from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.' ⁵ No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.

⁶ "Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. ⁷ Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. ⁸ Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. ⁹ This is my command be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand

HYMN

Make Me A Servant,
Humble And Meek. Lord, Let Me Lift Up
Those Who Are Weak, And May the Prayer
Of My Heart Always Be: Make Me A Servant,
Make Me A Servant, Make Me A Servant Today!

Make Me A Servant,
Humble And Meek. Lord, Let Me Lift Up
Those Who Are Weak, And May the Prayer
Of My Heart Always Be: Make Me A Servant,
Make Me A Servant, Make Me A Servant Today!

MAKE ME A SERVANT

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:16-20

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty eighth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Pastor: ¹⁶Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him but some of them doubted! ¹⁸Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ**

Please be Seated

SPECIAL MUSIC

'WITH A VOICE OF THANKSGIVING'

CHOIR

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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 Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22

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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;
1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

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 cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment.

PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

1. The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price! **Ref.**

**Refrain Worthy is the Lamb whose death
makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

2. The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. **Ref.**

THE LAMB

3. The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill. **Ref.**

4. He sighs, He dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness. **Ref.**

5. He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. **Ref.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

People: 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.

SERMON

PASTOR JIM THELEN

'BECAUSE OF EASTER-HE WILL BE WITH US ALWAYS'

SERMON NOTES

Please Stand

APOSTLES CREED

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. 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. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA! HEARTS TO HEAVEN

1. Alleluia, alleluia!
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.

2. Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried:
Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.

3. Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior
Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia
To the triune Majesty!

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Announcements

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS: Joyce Maxfield, Bob Volatile, Kitty Argobright, Bob Kelley, Don Terry, Lana Davis, Judy Karlin, Bill Hulbig, Al Wilke, Nancy Lisch, Hal Heidtman, Donnie Roksberry, Laverne Henry

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS & FAMILY: Andrea Sager (Donnie & Norva Jeanne Rooksberry), Rene & Terry Maurer (Anne Rozite) Woody Barnette (Donnie & Norva Jeanne Rooksberry), John SchenckII (Lydia Krueger), Judy Resler (Dick and Vicki Ross), Don Clark Jr. (Betty Clark), Cecilia Popoff (Vicki Williams), Family Member (Judy Volker), Corey Hendricks (Flo Hendricks), Charlie Darr (Patti Naughton), Marlene Byard (Carmen Brookshaw), Kevin Carr (Marie Mahr), Ruth Naughton (Patti Naughton), Jean Holland, Dan Taggatz (Mark & Karen Kuhnly), family of Kevin Moore Jr., Jack & Connie Hawkins (Dave & Connie Wuellner), Darlene Kent, Shane Silver (Nancy Carrington), Jim Cookfar, Sharon Hartung (Mike & Chris Pigeon), John & John Brewitt Jr. (Doug & Sandy Alger), Jerri Sheppard (Anne Rozite), Fran Hall (Linda Harrison), Patricia Willey, and those we name in our hearts.

***PLEASE LET US KNOW IF WE CAN REMOVE ANY NAMES
FROM OUR PRAYER LISTS!***

ANNIVERSARIES: Terry & Carol Horne

BIRTHDAYS: David Long, Pete Schmidt, Helen Johnson

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

IN PERSON - 276

ONLINE - 126

TOTAL - 402

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Total April Target: **\$97,100**

Total April to-date (3 Sundays) \$ 80,362 (83%)

Year-to-date Target: **\$408,100**

Actual Year-to-date: \$ 370,033 (91%)

IN HOME VISITATIONS: If you, or someone you know, would like to have a visit from Pastor Jim, please call the office and we can make the arrangements. Thank you!
(239) 394-0332

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

WAYS TO GIVE:

1. **You can place your offerings in the offering boxes** on either side at the front of the chancel and in the back center aisle
2. **You can mail your offerings** to the church.
3. **Using the instructions on our website under the SHARING tab you can give ONLINE.** Either as a one-time donation or regular weekly/monthly donation. All transactions are secure and confidential.
4. **You can give using your phone via the Vanco APP.** You can also **text 8339401468** and enter the amount you wish to donate to the general fund. If you aren't registered, you will receive a link. If you have any difficulty or questions, please email **financialsec@marcolutheran.org**.

DISCOVER MARCO: If you are interested in becoming a member of Marco Lutheran Church or are already a member and just want to “refresh,” we invite you to attend a one on-one session of the ***Discover Marco Lutheran Class*** with Pastor Jim. If you have any questions about “Discover Marco” please contact Amy at the church office **(239) 394-0332**

BECOME PART OF WHAT GOD IS DOING AT MARCO LUTHERAN

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Please join us for the following Bible Studies.

- TUESDAYS:** **8:30AM MEN’S BIBLE STUDY**
- WEDNESDAYS:** **10:00AM WOMEN OF THE WORD - Resumes October 14th**
- THURSDAYS:** **10:00AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Resumes June 11th**
- SUNDAYS:** **10:45AM IN THE “GREAT ROOM” FOR COFFEE AND CONVERSATION AFTER WORSHIP**

THANK YOU TO OUR HELPFUL SERVANTS FOR:

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER:	Dave Wuellner
LAY MINISTER:	Doug Alger
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:	Carol Siadak, Gwen Nesteval
HEAD USHER:	Scott Loula
USHERS:	Bob Sutton, Paul Gremel, Victor Argobright, Ron Lisch
TRANSPORTERS:	Carol Siadak, Gwen Nesteval
AV TECH:	Ann Stuart & Tom Williams
WELCOME CENTER:	Bonnie Calvin, Peg Irwin
GREETERS:	Sule Lyons, Hildegard Carney



April 26- 1941 A tradition begins with the first organ at a baseball stadium (Chicago Cubs)

1877 Residents of Minnesota observe a statewide day of prayer, set by Governor John Sargent Pillsbury, imploring deliverance from a plague of grasshoppers that has been ravaging their crops. Many families are on the verge of starvation. In the next two days warm weather will cause millions of larvae to wiggle to life and skeptic's scoff; but a plunge in temperature on the fourth day will freeze and kill them. A chapel will be built at Cold Spring to commemorate the miracle.

As you may recall, Marco Lutheran Church held a program in January by Legacy Coalition called "Grandparents Matter". We have had stories of how this program positively impacted attendees. While we intend to have a follow-up program in the future, would you like to share how this may have impacted your life and relationship with your grandchildren? If so, please feel free to drop a note to the office with your testimony on how this improved or positively changed your relationship. If you would like to share your story anonymously, please so note. We hope to share positive updates with as the year goes on.

CALENDAR APRIL 26 – MAY 16

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
APRIL 26 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	APRIL 27 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	APRIL 28 8:30AM MEN'S BIBLE STRUDY 6:30P BSF MEN & WOMEN	APRIL 29 4:00P CHOIR	APRIL 30 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 1	MAY 2
MAY 3 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION	MAY 4 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 5 8:30AM MEN'S BIBLE STRUDY 10:00A WOMEN OF MARCO	MAY 6 4:00P CHOIR	MAY 7 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 8	MAY 9
MAY 10 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION	MAY 11 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 12 8:30AM MEN'S BIBLE STRUDY 10:00A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2:00P BOLM	MAY 13 5:30P FOUNDATION	MAY 14 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 15	MAY 16



MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH

525 N. Collier Blvd. | Marco Island, Florida 34145 | (239) 394-0332
marcolutheran.org

 Like us on Facebook at: **Marco Lutheran Church Page**