

May 3, 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

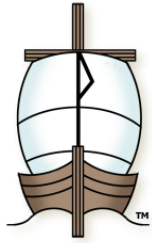
www.marcolutheran.org

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

Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

HERE I AM LORD

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

**REF. Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them
Whom shall I send? **Ref.**

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them,
Whom shall I send? **Ref.**

Please be Seated

PSALM 67

Leader: May God be merciful and bless us. May his face smile with favor on us.

People: **May your ways be known throughout the earth, your saving power among people everywhere.**

Leader: May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you.

People: **Let the whole world sing for joy, because you govern the nations with justice and guide the people of the whole world.**

Leader: May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you.

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

Leader: Then the earth will yield its harvests, and God, our God, will richly bless us.

People: **Yes, God will bless us, and people all over the world will fear him.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

Leader: "The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. ¹¹ It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it. ¹² You will live in joy and peace. The mountains and hills will burst into song, and the trees of the field will clap their hands ¹³ Where once there were thorns, cypress trees will grow. Where nettles grew, myrtles will sprout up. These events will bring great honor to the Lord's name; they will be an everlasting sign of his power and love.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand

HYMN

THY WORD

Ref. **Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.**

2. I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;
And I will love You to the end. **Refrain**

1. When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end. **Refrain**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:11-32

Vicar: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

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

Vicar: ¹¹To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons. ¹²The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now before you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. ¹³"A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. ¹⁴About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. ¹⁵He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶The young man became so hungry that even the pods

he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything.¹⁷ “When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger!¹⁸ I will go home to my father and say, “Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you,¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.”’²⁰ “So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him.²¹ His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son!’²² “But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet.²³ And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast,²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.’ So the party began.²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the fields working. When he returned home, he heard music and dancing in the house,²⁶ and he asked one of the servants what was going on.²⁷ ‘Your brother is back,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf. We are celebrating because of his safe return.’²⁸ “The older brother was angry and wouldn’t go in. His father came out and begged him,²⁹ but he replied, ‘All these years I’ve slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends.³⁰ Yet when this son of yours comes back after squandering your money on prostitutes, you celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’³¹ “His father said to him, ‘Look, dear son, you have always stayed by me, and everything I have is yours.³² We had to celebrate this happy day. For your brother was dead and has come back to life! He was lost, but now he is found!’”

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be Seated

SPECIAL MUSIC

‘ I’VE JUST SEEN JESUS’

LUCKY LANG & PEG IRWIN

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Vicar: From where does my help come?

People: **My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

Vicar: The LORD will preserve your going out and your coming in,

People: **from this time forth and forevermore.**

Vicar: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

Vicar: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a 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

Vicar: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Vicar: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Vicar: 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*

Vicar: 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

Vicar: 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.**

Vicar: 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

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

People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM

‘AT THIS TABLE THERE IS LOVE’

CHOIR

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

VICAR TIMOTHY ABEL

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

Vicar: 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

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.

DISMISSAL

Vicar: 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, 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), Fran Hall (Linda Harrison), Patricia Willey, Ryan Degen(David & Judy Karlin), Rosanda Olivia(Vicki Ross) and those we name in our hearts.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Chuck & Pat Wiley, Conrad & Laverne Henry

BIRTHDAYS: Craig Greusel, Jan May, Karl Blomgren, Joan Johnson

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

IN PERSON - 277 ONLINE - 143 TOTAL -420

CONTRIBUTIONS:

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

Total April to-date (**4 Sundays**) **\$ 100,170 (103%)**

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

Actual Year-to-date: **\$389,841 (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, MAY 3, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER:	Karen Kuhnly
LAY MINISTER:	Doug Alger
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:	Jaye Spencer, Debbie Sanger
HEAD USHER:	Mark Kuhnly
USHERS:	Victor Argobright, Ron Lisch, Bill Kaschube
TRANSPORTERS:	Debbie Sanger, Ron Lisch
AV TECH	Scott Berner, John Caltabiano
WELCOME CENTER:	Leesa Carls, Shirley Amen



May 3- 1937 Margaret Mitchell wins the Pulitzer Prize for her novel "Gone with the Wind"

1853 At twenty-one years of age, Uriah Smith begins fifty years of service at the Seventh-day Adventists' Review and Herald. In addition to his editorial work, he will write books on prophecy, including the well-known Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation, and he will patent an artificial leg, having undergone an amputation as a child because of infection.

Dear Congregation,

Pastor Jim and Kristin are prayerfully seeking to move onto Marco Island to be closer to the church and community they serve. Due to Kristin's health needs, being nearby would allow Pastor Jim to care for her while remaining available for ministry.

If you or someone you know has a rental property on Marco Island, please contact Pastor Jim through the church office.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Pastor Jim and Kristin Thelen

Grandparenting Matters

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 note. We hope to share positive updates with you as the year goes on.

CALENDAR MAY 3- MAY 23

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAY 3 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION	MAY 4 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 1:00P OUTREACH 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 5 8:30AM MEN'S BIBLE STRUDY 10:00A WOMEN OF MARCO 2:00P BOLM	MAY 6	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	MAY 13 5:30P FOUNDATION	MAY 14 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 15	MAY 16
MAY 17 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION 11:30A GREG WALTRIP COL	MAY 18 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 19 8:30AM MEN'S BIBLE STRUDY	MAY 20 11:00A LUNCH W FRIENDS 1:00P BOHC 5:30P BOOK CLUB	MAY 21 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	MAY 22 10:00A COUNCIL	MAY 23



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