

July 5, 2026

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION

www.marcolutheran.org/foundation

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 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 Genesis, God speaks—and life begins. As we journey through these early chapters of Scripture, we see creation, the fall into sin, the flood, Babel, and the lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Through broken people and difficult moments, God remains faithful to His promises. As we gather, we are reminded that the God who created, called, and carried His people in Genesis is still at work today—bringing grace, hope, and new life to us.

✠ 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

1. God of our Fathers, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.
2. Thy love divine hath led us in the past; in this free land with thee our lot is cast; be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

GOD OF OUR FATHERS

3. From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense; thy true religion in our hearts increase; thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.
4. Refresh thy people on their toilsome way; lead us from night to never-ending day; fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

Please be Seated

PSALM 2

Leader: Why are the nations so angry? Why do they waste their time with futile plans?

People: The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the LORD and against his anointed one.

Leader: "Let us break their chains," they cry, "and free ourselves from slavery to God."

People: But the one who rules in heaven laughs. The Lord scoffs at them.

Leader: Then in anger he rebukes them, terrifying them with his fierce fury.

People: For the Lord declares, "I have placed my chosen king on the throne in Jerusalem, on my holy mountain."

Leader: The king proclaims the LORD's decree: "The LORD said to me, 'You are my son. Today I have become your Father.

People: Only ask, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance, the whole earth as your possession.

Leader: You will break them with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots."

People: Now then, you kings, act wisely! Be warned, you rulers of the earth!

Leader: Serve the LORD with reverent fear and rejoice with trembling.

People: Submit to God's royal son, or he will become angry, and you will be destroyed in the midst of all your activities for his anger flares up in an instant. But what joy for all who take refuge in him!

FIRST READING

Genesis 11:1-9

Leader: At one time all the people of the world spoke the same language and used the same words. ² As the people migrated to the east, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia and settled there. ³ They began saying to each other, "Let's make bricks and harden them with fire." (In this region bricks were used instead of stone, and tar was used for mortar.) ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let's build a great city for ourselves with a tower that reaches into the sky. This will make us famous and keep us from being scattered all over the world." ⁵ But the LORD came down to look at the city and the tower the people were building. ⁶ "Look!" he said. "The people are united, and they all speak the same language. After this, nothing they set out to do will be impossible for them! ⁷ Come, let's go down and confuse the people with different languages. Then they won't be able to understand each other." ⁸ In that way,

the LORD scattered them all over the world, and they stopped building the city. ⁹That is why the city was called Babel, because that is where the LORD confused the people with different languages. In this way he scattered them all over the world.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE

1. Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.
4. O Trinity of love and pow'r,
Our people shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad praise from air and land and sea.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 11:17-26

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.

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

Pastor: ¹⁷ He knew their thoughts, so he said, "Any kingdom divided by civil war is doomed. A family splintered by feuding will fall apart. ¹⁸ You say I am empowered by Satan. But if Satan is divided and fighting against himself, how can his kingdom survive? ¹⁹ And if I am empowered by Satan, what about your own exorcists? They cast out demons, too, so they will condemn you for what you have said. ²⁰ But if I am casting out demons by the power of God, then the Kingdom of God has arrived among you. ²¹ For when a strong man is fully armed and guards his palace, his possessions are safe ²² until someone even stronger attacks and overpowers him, strips him of his weapons, and carries off his belongings. ²³ "Anyone who isn't with me opposes me, and anyone who isn't working with me is actually working against me. ²⁴ "When an evil spirit leaves a person, it goes into the desert, searching for rest. But when it finds none, it says, 'I will return to the person I came from.' ²⁵ So it returns and finds that its former home is all swept and in order. ²⁶ Then the spirit finds seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they all enter the person and live there. And so that person is worse off than before."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be Seated

SOLO

FREEDOM - CRAIG GREUSEL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, “Repent” and “Follow Me.” Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.

People: **Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, “I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation, I will praise You. Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I 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: Lord of heaven and earth, we bless Your Holy Name! In Your mercy, You sent Your Son, Jesus, to take on our flesh, bear our sin, and be our Savior. With

thankful and repentant hearts, we receive the salvation He won for us through His body and blood given on the cross. Gathered in Jesus' name, we ask You to forgive us, renew us, and strengthen us by Your Word and Spirit. Help us faithfully receive His body and blood as He has given us to do. Keep us in Your care, hear our prayers, and bring us at last to the eternal feast of the Lamb in Your kingdom. To You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all glory, honor, and praise, 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 after 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 after 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 SOLO

CRAIG GREUSEL

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

'BABEL'

PASTOR JIM THELEN

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 again 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

AMERICA (MY COUNTRY 'TIS OF THEE)

My country, 'tis of Thee,
Sweet Land of Liberty
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let Freedom ring.

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills,
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet Freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

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, Al Wilke, Hal Heidtman, Conrad Henry, Marilyn Nervig, Donnie Rooksberry, Mirella Brache, Patti Naughton

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), Charlie Darr (Patti Naughton), Marlene Byard (Carmen Brookshaw), Kevin Carr (Marie Mahr), Ruth Naughton (Patti Naughton), Jean Holland, Dan Taggatz (Mark & Karen Kuhnly), Lynn & Jeremy Schroeder, Jack & Connie Hawkins (Dave & Connie Wuellner), Darlene Kent(Dave & Connie Wuellner), Shane Silver (Nancy Carrington), Jim Cookfair, 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), Carlos Cisneros(Dick & Vicki Ross, Antonella(anonymous),Frank Alterio(Marge Alterio), Tracy Rusinyak(Patti Naughton),Mike S., Joe LoRusso (Dick & Vicki Ross), John & Jacklyn Clancy (Carol Nelson), Mark Jones (Cathy Pruden) and those we name in our hearts.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: John & Kathryn Guthrie

BIRTHDAYS: Michael Pigeon, Ann Stuart, Don Terry, Pamela Nagorske, Duaine Esegard

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

IN PERSON - 136 ONLINE - 144 GATHERING - 17 TOTAL - 280

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Total June Target: **\$64,300**

Total June to-date (5 Sundays): **\$80,780 (126%)**

Year-to-date Target: **\$540,200**

Actual Year-to-date: **\$529,872 (98%)**

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 14, 2026
THURSDAYS:	10:00AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAYS:	10:45AM IN THE “GREAT ROOM” FOR COFFEE AND CONVERSATION AFTER WORSHIP

Thank You to Our Helpful Servants For:

Sunday, July 5, 2026

Worship Leader: Linda Harrison

Pastor Jim Thelen

Music: Craig Greusel

Keyboardist: John Davis

SUMMER SHOWING OF 'THE CHOSEN'

Summer is back and so is showing of "The Chosen". Please join us for dinner and a movie where we will be showing Season 3, 8 episodes of The Chosen this summer at 5:00 pm in the Great Room as follows:

**JULY 15
JULY 29
AUGUST 12**

**AUGUST 26
SEPTEMBER 9
SEPTEMBER 23**

We will be serving dinner while showing the episode, we will have prayer and discussion and communion for those who want to partake. All events are free of charge to members and guests. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex

A TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND

Join us from November 2-12, 2027, for a transformative journey to the Holy Land. Discover sacred sites, walk the ancient streets of Jerusalem, and marvel at Bethlehem's historic wonders. This trip offers guided tours, personal reflection, and community fellowship. Whether you're inspired by faith, history, or adventure, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Create lasting memories in one of the world's most revered regions.

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION - 239.394.0332

Dear Friends,

Thank you to those who have already signed up to help with **The Gathering** and thank you also to those who may still be considering being a part of this ministry.

Beginning **Sunday, July 5**, we will have **two opportunities to serve:**

1:00 PM at The Watermark

3:00 PM at Discovery Village

As you may have heard, there are many ways to help during these worship services. You can:

- Read Scripture or other parts of the service
- Help sing or lead the songs
- Assist with serving Communion
- Usher and greet people as they arrive

Be present throughout the service to welcome, encourage, and support those who attend

(You can choose to help do a couple of the above at the same service if you so desire.)

You can serve as much or as little as you are able. That might be once a month or more often. It might be at one location or both. We are grateful for whatever you are able to do.

This is a wonderful opportunity to bring worship, the Word of God, and the love of Jesus to people in our local retirement communities.

Please contact the church office **(239) 394-0332** and let us know how you would be willing to serve.

Thank you for considering being part of this meaningful ministry.

Blessings,
Pastor Jim

CALENDAR JULY 5 – JULY 25

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p align="center">JULY 5</p> <p>9:30A WORSHIP</p> <p>10:45A AMERICAS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION</p> <p>1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK</p> <p>3:00P GATHERING @ DISCOVERY VILLAGE</p>	<p align="center">JULY 6</p> <p align="center">NO YOGA</p> <p align="center">1:00P OUTREACH</p>	<p align="center">JULY 7</p> <p>8:30A MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>10:00A WOM</p>	<p align="center">JULY 8</p>	<p align="center">JULY 9</p> <p>10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p align="center">NO YOGA</p>	<p align="center">JULY 10</p>	<p align="center">JULY 11</p>
<p align="center">JULY 12</p> <p>9:30A WORSHIP</p> <p>1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK</p> <p>3:00P GATHERING @ DISCOVERY VILLAGE</p>	<p align="center">JULY 13</p> <p align="center">NO YOGA</p>	<p align="center">JULY 14</p> <p>8:30A MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>10:00A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</p>	<p align="center">JULY 15</p> <p>11:00A LUNCH W FRIENDS</p> <p>1:00P BOHC</p> <p>5:00P THE CHOSEN</p>	<p align="center">JULY 16</p> <p>10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p align="center">NO YOGA</p>	<p align="center">JULY 17</p>	<p align="center">JULY 18</p>
<p align="center">JULY 19</p> <p>9:30A WORSHIP</p> <p>10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION</p> <p>1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK</p> <p>3:00P GATHERING @ DISCOVERY VILLAGE</p>	<p align="center">JULY 20</p> <p align="center">NO YOGA</p>	<p align="center">JULY 21</p> <p>8:30A MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>10:00A COUNCIL</p>	<p align="center">JULY 22</p>	<p align="center">JULY 23</p> <p>10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p align="center">NO YOGA</p>	<p align="center">JULY 24</p>	<p align="center">JULY 25</p>



The Gathering at The Watermark and Discovery Village

Join Marco Lutheran Church
Bringing Word and Sacrament along with
Fellowship and Growth.

The Watermark Worship:

Sunday's Starting:

June 7, 2026

1:00 p.m. In the Theatre Room

1170 San Marco Rd.
Marco Island, Fl 34145

Discovery Village Worship:

Sunday's Starting:

July 5, 2026

3:00 p.m. In the Theatre Room

8375 Sierra Meadows Blvd.
Naples, Fl 34113

What to Expect:

- ✓ Worship Music
- ✓ Scripture
- ✓ Prayer
- ✓ Holy Communion
- ✓ Fellowship



MORE INFORMATION

Marco Lutheran Church



(239) 394-0332

www.marcolutheran.org

office@marcolutheran.org

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH

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