

July 12, 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. Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?

**Ref. Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God**

2. On the margin of the river,
Washing up its silver spray,
We will talk and worship ever,
All the happy golden day. **Refrain**

SHALL WE GATHER BY THE RIVER

3. Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown. **Refrain**

4. Soon we'll reach the silver river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace. **Refrain**

Please be Seated

PSALM 105:1-11; 42-45

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done.

People: Sing to him; yes, sing his praises. Tell everyone about his wonderful deeds.

Leader: Exult in his holy name; rejoice, you who worship the LORD.

People: Search for the LORD and for his strength; continually seek him.

Leader: Remember the wonders he has performed, his miracles, and the rulings he has given,

People: you children of his servant Abraham, you descendants of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Leader: He is the LORD our God. His justice is seen throughout the land.

People: He always stands by his covenant the commitment he made to a thousand generations.

Leader: This is the covenant he made with Abraham and the oath he swore to Isaac.

People: He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, and to the people of Israel as a never-ending covenant:

Leader: "I will give you the land of Canaan as your special possession." For he remembered his sacred promise to his servant Abraham.

People: So he brought his people out of Egypt with joy, his chosen ones with rejoicing.

Leader: He gave his people the lands of pagan nations, and they harvested crops that others had planted.

People: All this happened so they would follow his decrees and obey his instructions.

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

Leader: Sometime later, the LORD spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, "Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great." ² But Abram replied, "O Sovereign LORD, what good are all your blessings when I don't even have a son? Since you've given me no children, Eliezer of Damascus, a servant in my household, will inherit all my wealth. ³ You have given me no descendants of my own, so one of my servants will be my heir." ⁴ Then the LORD said to him, "No, your servant will not be your heir, for you will have a son of your own who will be your heir." ⁵ Then the LORD took Abram outside and said to him, "Look

up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you will have!" ⁶And Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

HYMN

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I wanna see You
I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I wanna see You
I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing, "Holy, holy, holy"

So, open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I wanna see You
I want to see You

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:48-59

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

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

Pastor: ⁴⁸The people retorted, "You Samaritan devil! Didn't we say all along that you were possessed by a demon?" ⁴⁹"No," Jesus said, "I have no demon in me. For I honor my Father and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰And though I have no wish to glorify myself, God is going to glorify me. He is the true judge. ⁵¹I tell you the truth, anyone who obeys my teaching will never die!" ⁵²The people said, "Now we know you are possessed by a demon. Even Abraham and the prophets died, but you say, 'Anyone who obeys my teaching will never

die!’⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?”⁵⁴ Jesus answered, “If I want glory for myself, it doesn’t count. But it is my Father who will glorify me. You say, ‘He is our God,’⁵⁵ but you don’t even know him. I know him. If I said otherwise, I would be as great a liar as you! But I do know him and obey him.⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced as he looked forward to my coming. He saw it and was glad.”⁵⁷ The people said, “You aren’t even fifty years old. How can you say you have seen Abraham?”⁵⁸ Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, I AM!”⁵⁹ At that point they picked up stones to throw at him. But Jesus was hidden from them and left the Temple.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN

DO LORD

Ref. **Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me, oh Lordy
Do Lord, oh do Lord, oh, do remember me
Do Lord, oh, do Lord, oh, do remember me
Way beyond the blue**

1. I've got a home in Gloryland that outshines the sun
I've got a home in Gloryland that outshines the sun
I've got a home in Gloryland that outshines the sun
Way beyond the blue **Refrain**
2. I took Jesus for my Savior, you take him too
I took Jesus for my Savior, you take him too
I took Jesus for my Savior, you take him too
Way beyond the blue. **Refrain**

Please be Seated

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 HYMN

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah

Jordan river is deep and wide, hallelujah
Green pastures on the other side, hallelujah

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah

Jordan's river is chilly and cold, hallelujah
Chills the body but not the soul, hallelujah

MICHAEL ROW THE BOAT ASHORE

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah

Yes that river runs deep and wide, hallelujah
Milk and honey on the other side, hallelujah

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah

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

'ABRAHAM'

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

GIVE ME THAT OLD TIME RELIGION

**Ref. Give me that old time religion,
Give me that old time religion,
Give me that old time religion,
It's good enough for me.**

1. It was good for Paul and Silas,
It was good for Paul and Silas,
It was good for Paul and Silas,
It's good enough for me. **Refrain**

2. It was good for the Hebrew children,
It was good for the Hebrew children,
It was good for the Hebrew children,
It's good enough for me. **Refrain**

3. It was good for our mothers,
It was good for our fathers,
It was good for our sisters and brothers,
So It's good enough for me. **Refrain**

4. Makes me love ev'rybody,
Makes me love ev'rybody,
Makes me love ev'rybody,
It's good enough for me. **Refrain**

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), Mack Jones (Cathy Pruden) and those we name in our hearts.

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

PRAYERS OF COMFORT: For the family and friends of Laverne Glessman.

ANNIVERSARIES: Dom & Pat Durinzi, Greg & Diana Henke, Duaine & Phyllis Epegard

BIRTHDAYS: Karen Kuhnly, Nadine Bawkey, Scott Loula, Jake Jacobson, Judy Lange, Eric Peterson, Carl Bodkins

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

IN PERSON – 132 ONLINE - 128 GATHERING – 34 TOTAL – 294

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Total July Target: \$56,100

Total July to-date (1 Sunday): \$21,890 (39%)

Year-to-date Target: \$596,300

Actual Year-to-date: \$553,727 (93%)

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 - Resumes October 2026
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 12, 2026

Worship Leader: Jack Lustila

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



**We are looking for our Special Volunteers for our
Annual Dinner at Camp Able!!**

Join us on **Thursday July 16th** at **5:30pm** as we serve the awesome kids at Camp. We are looking for volunteers to help with prep and cleanup. A **sign-up sheet** is available in the **Narthex**.

We are also requesting donations of **cookies**, homemade or store bought are both appreciated! Cookie donations should be brought on **Sunday July 12th** before service.

**Thank you for helping make this special event
Such a fun success every year!!!**

**ANNOUNCING THE ARTIST SERIES
For the 2027 Season!!**

Thursday, **January 21** & Friday, **January 22**
Thursday, **February 4** & Friday, **February 5**
Thursday, **February 18** & Friday, **February 19**
Thursday, **March 4** & Friday, **March 5**
Thursday, **March 18** & Friday, **March 19**

All Shows at 7:30pm

Brochures will be mailed in late August!

Please send updates to:
ArtistSeries@Marcolutheran.org

Calendar July 12th- August 1st

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JULY 12 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION 1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK 3:00P GATHERING @ DISCOVERY VILLAGE	JULY 13 NO YOGA 1:00P OUTREACH	JULY 14 10:00A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	JULY 15 11:00A LUNCH W FRIENDS 1:00P BOHC 5:00P THE CHOSEN	JULY 16 10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY NO YOGA 5:30 CAMP ABLE	JULY 17	JULY 18
JULY 19 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION 1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK 3:00P GATHERING @ DISCOVERY VILLAGE	JULY 20 NO YOGA	JULY 21 10:00A COUNCIL	JULY 22	JULY 23 10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY NO YOGA	JULY 24	JULY 25
JULY 26 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION 1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK	JULY 27 NO YOGA	JULY 28	JULY 29 5:00P THE CHOSEN	JULY 30 10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY NO YOGA	JULY 31	AUGUST 1