

July 19, 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

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal. | 3. Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him. |
| 2. No strength of ours can match his might.
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious. | 4. God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever! |

Please be Seated

PSALM 130

Leader: From the depths of despair, O Lord, I call for your help.

People: **Hear my cry, O Lord. Pay attention to my prayer.**

Leader: Lord, if you kept a record of our sins, who, O Lord, could ever survive?

People: **But you offer forgiveness, that we might learn to fear you.**

Leader: I am counting on the Lord; yes, I am counting on him. I have put my hope in his word.

People: **I long for the Lord more than sentries long for the dawn, yes, more than sentries long for the dawn.**

Leader: O Israel, hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is unfailing love. His redemption overflows.

People: **He himself will redeem Israel from every kind of sin.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 18:23-33

Leader: ²³ Abraham approached him and said, "Will you sweep away both the righteous and the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose you find fifty righteous people living there in the city will you still sweep it away and not spare it for their sakes? ²⁵ Surely you wouldn't do such a thing, destroying the righteous along with the wicked. Why, you would be treating the righteous and the wicked exactly the same! Surely you wouldn't do that! Should not the Judge of all the earth do what is right?" ²⁶ And the LORD replied, "If I find fifty righteous people in Sodom, I will spare the entire city for their sake." ²⁷ Then Abraham spoke again. "Since I have begun, let me speak further to my Lord, even though I am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose there are only forty-five righteous people rather than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And the LORD said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five righteous people there." ²⁹ Then Abraham pressed his request further. "Suppose there are only forty?" And the LORD replied, "I will not destroy it for the sake of the forty." ³⁰ "Please don't be angry, my Lord," Abraham pleaded. "Let me speak suppose only thirty righteous people are found?" And the LORD replied, "I will not destroy it if I find thirty." ³¹ Then Abraham said, "Since I have dared to speak to the Lord, let me continue suppose there are only twenty?" And the LORD replied, "Then I will not destroy it for the sake of the twenty." ³² Finally, Abraham said, "Lord, please don't be angry with me if I speak one more time. Suppose only ten are found there?" And the LORD replied, "Then I will not destroy it for the sake of the ten." ³³ When

the LORD had finished his conversation with Abraham, he went on his way, and Abraham returned to his tent.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

HYMN

ABIDE WITH ME

1. Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.
2. I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 17:22-30

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

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

Pastor: ²²Then he said to his disciples, "The time is coming when you will long to see the day when the Son of Man returns, but you won't see it. ²³People will tell you, 'Look, there is the Son of Man,' or 'Here he is,' but don't go out and follow them. ²⁴For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other, so it will be on the day when the Son of Man comes. ²⁵But first the Son of Man must suffer terribly and be rejected by this generation. ²⁶"When the Son of Man returns, it will be like it was in Noah's day. ²⁷In those days, the people enjoyed banquets and parties and weddings right up to the time Noah entered his boat and the flood came and destroyed them all. ²⁸"And the world will be as it was in the days of Lot. People went about their daily business eating and drinking, buying and selling, farming and building ²⁹until the morning Lot left Sodom. Then fire and burning sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all. ³⁰Yes, it will be 'business as usual' right up to the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

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 You’re coming for the final judgment.

PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

1. Let us break bread together on our knees
Let us break bread together on our knees
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun
O Lord have mercy on me
2. Let us drink wine together on our knees
Let us drink wine together on our knees
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun
O Lord have mercy on me
3. Let us praise God together on our knees
Let us praise God together on our knees
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun
O Lord have mercy on me
4. Let us praise God together on our knees
Let us praise God together on our knees
When I fall on my knees
With my face to the rising sun
O Lord have mercy if You please

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

'SODOM AND GOMORRAH'

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

AMAZING GRACE

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see! | 3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home. |
| 2. The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures. | 5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun. |

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), Kevin Carr (Marie Mahr), Ruth Naughton (Patti Naughton), Jean Holland, Lynn & Jeremy Schroeder, Jack & Connie Hawkins (Dave & Connie Wuellner), Darlene Kent, Shane Silver (Nancy Carrington), Jim Cookfair, John & John Brewitt Jr. (Doug & Sandy Alger), Fran Hall (Linda Harrison), Patricia Willey, Ryan Degen(David & Judy Karlin), Rosanda Olivia (Vicki Ross), Antonella (anonymous), Frank Alterio (Marge Alterio), Tracy Rusinyak (Patti Naughton), Mike S., Joe LoRusso (Dick & Vicki Ross), Mary Noble Bender (Carolyn Ohman), Shirley Rhodes (Sybil Fleming) and those we name in our hearts.name in our hearts.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Jack & Kathy Lustila

BIRTHDAYS: David Hughes, Elaine Lawson, Jan Loula, Louise Shaffer, Sandy Alger, Rodney Loeb, Dave Wuellner

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

IN PERSON - 144 ONLINE - 120 GATHERINGS - 32 TOTAL – 296

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Total July Target: **\$56,100**

Total July to-date (2 Sundays): **\$33,116 (59%)**

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

Actual Year-to-date: **\$564,953 (95%)**

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 13, 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

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

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 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

Thank You to Our Helpful Servants For:

Sunday, July 19, 2026

Worship Leader: Linda Harrison

Pastor Jim Thelen

Music: Craig Greusel

Keyboardist: Lucielle Gaita

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

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 19 – AUGUST 8						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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
AUGUST 2 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION 1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK 3:00P GATHERING @ DISCOVERY VILLAGE	AUGUST 3 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 1:00P OUTREACH 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	AUGUST 4 10:00A WOM	AUGUST 5	AUGUST 6 8:00A GLOBAL LEADERSHIP 10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	AUGUST 7 8:00A GLOBAL LEADERSHIP	AUGUST 8



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