
Welcome to Worship

We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation: *In response to God's love we invite and welcome all, worship and celebrate, teach and learn, serve and share.* (Marin Lutheran Church Mission Statement)

Visitors with us are most welcome! Please fill out your name and contact information on the yellow welcome card in the hymnal rack in front of you, and let us know how we can serve you. We **welcome everyone** in the name of our risen Christ and we pray that during this time of worship, you will sense God's presence and hear God's message of healing love. **Children are welcome** and may join in children's time when a special message is presented. Let us worship together!

During our service:

- Today we give praise to God using **ELW** (the red book). You will need this book and the bulletin to guide you through this service. You will find "page" numbers at the bottom of the page in the front of the book, & hymn, "#s" by the title line.
- **The Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be celebrated. We believe that Christ's sustaining & forgiving presence are found in the elements of bread, wine & grape juice. Here at Marin Lutheran Church, all are welcome to come forward to receive this sacrament. Children are welcome to commune or to come forward for a blessing.
- **Assisted Listening Devices** are available in a basket in the entrance foyer.
- **Child Care** – through age five – is available each Sunday in the lower level of this building, just below the church.
- **Children's Bulletins** are available. If you would like one please ask the usher.
- **Special Prayer Requests** If you have special prayer requests, please write them on the back side of the yellow welcome card found in a pocket folder in the hymnal rack in front of you. The ushers will collect them during the hymn following the sermon.

If you are a first time worshipper, Marin Lutheran Church information packets are available on a table in the entrance foyer.

Christian Education Sunday School & Adult classes are held between services from September through May.

Marin Lutheran Church
649 Meadowsweet Drive
Corte Madera, CA 94925
(415) 924-3782

The Rev. Thomas Gable, Pastor
The Rev. Kathryn Gulbranson, Pastor
David Shepard, Director of Music Ministries
Marilyn Davis, Asst. to Director of MM
Michele Jacobs, Director of Sunday School

SAINTS ALIVE – LIVING GENEROUSLY

September 25, 2011 11:00 a.m. Service

To inspire us to become generous people we believe it's important to make connections between us and the fruits of our giving. We need to know how our gifts to Marin Lutheran change lives and bring joy as hurts are healed, the hungry are fed, and hope replaces despair. It is the goal of our stewardship emphasis that as we connect with ministries and inspirational stories of giving and stories of lives transformed, we will become more generous people who respond in gratitude for the immeasurable blessings God pours into our lives. This morning we will see how our gifts change lives through our educational ministries.

GATHERING

CHORAL PRELUDE *Here We Bring, Small or Great* Murray/Klusmeier

Here we bring, small or great, gifts to offer on this plate,
what we've earned, what we own, tithe or token, bread or stone,

*Jesus said, "Have a care – your heart will always be
where your riches are, where your riches are."*

Food and drink, things obsess, drug us to false happiness;
what we keep, what we give, tells the truth of how we live.

Moth and rust breed decay, thieves break in and steal away;
love and trust need no hoard, richest treasure can't be stored.

Wild flowers grow, birds find seed, God attends to each one's need;
as we share, all can live, as we love, we learn to give.

Please stand as you are able and face the cross at the back of the church

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

A: We awaken to a new day and discover God has been waiting for us. We awaken to this gathering and discover God is creating Christian community among us. We awaken to worship and discover God with us. God is faithful. Come and worship.

C: Thanks be to God!

GATHERING HYMN

As Saints of Old

ELW (red book) # 695

We celebrate our coming together as God's family.

GREETING

P: May the God of hope fill you with the fullness of peace, and the Lord of life be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria

We give praise to God.

f Refrain

Glo-ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, sing_

Glo-ri - a, sing to God on high. Glo-ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, sing_

peace to God's peo - ple on earth. Sing_ peace to God's peo - ple on earth. _____

f Refrain

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, sing_ Glo - ri - a, sing to God on high.

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, sing_ peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Verse 1: Cantor/Choir

Lord God, who reigns above almighty God our Maker,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Refrain: Congregation

Verse 2: Cantor/Choir

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Creator.
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the God of Love:
receive our prayer.

Refrain: Congregation

Verse 3: Cantor/Choir

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit
in the Glory of God almighty. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We focus our attention on our relationship with God.

A: O God, our Creator and Sustainer,

C: **help us develop into good stewards of all that you entrust to us. Enable us to recognize our giftedness and to receive with gratitude our faith's treasures. Grant us full awareness of the treasure of your presence, an honest acceptance of the treasure of your grace, and a hearty appreciation for the treasure of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated

CHORAL OFFERING

Seek to Serve

Pfautsch

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-8

A contemporary of Jesus writes about how Jesus can affect us:

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,
⁵'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'

⁶Then I said, 'Ah, Lord GOD!

Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.'

⁷But the LORD said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a boy";
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD.'

PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34 (sung responsively)



²⁴How manifold are your ¹works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full ¹of your creatures.

²⁵**Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- ¹y to number,
living things both ¹small and great.**

²⁶There go the ships ¹to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you made for the ¹sport of it.

²⁷**All of them ¹look to you
to give them their food ¹in due season.**

²⁸You give it to them; they ¹gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled ¹with good things.

²⁹**When you hide your face, ¹they are terrified;
when you take away their breath, they die and return ¹to their dust.**

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they ¹are created;
and so you renew the face ¹of the earth.

³¹**May the glory of the LORD en- ¹dure forever;
O LORD, rejoice in ¹all your works.**

³²You look at the earth ¹and it trembles;
you touch the mountains ¹and they smoke.

³³**I will sing to the LORD as long ¹as I live;
I will praise my God while I ¹have my being.**

³⁴May these words of ¹mine please God.
I will rejoice ¹in the LORD.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

A contemporary of Jesus writes about how Jesus can affect us:

⁶The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.'

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

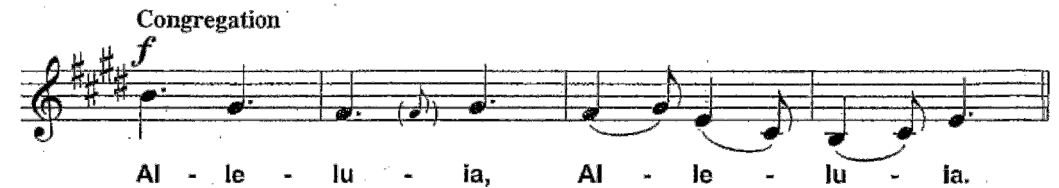
A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able

G O S P E L V E R S E

A: Alleluia, Alleluia



A: Lord to whom shall we go?



A: You have the words of eternal life.

Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Be seated

GOSPEL: A skit based on Luke 15:11-32 presented by our youth

REFLECTIONS

Pastor Gulbranson

God's word is explained and applied to our daily lives.

Stand as you are able

HYMN *Creating God, Your Fingers Trace* **ELW (red book) # 684**

We sing our praise to God.

(During this hymn, prayer requests will be collected and brought forward by the usher.)

Prayer request slips (yellow) can be found in a pocket folder in the back of the pew in front of you.)

APOSTLES' CREED

P: There is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism. United in Christ, let us confess the faith we hold in common.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Today's prayers were written by the youth in our confirmation class.)

A: Heal the wounds that our Christian brothers and sisters have caused to others in the past. Forgive us our wrongdoings. We pray for all the people who have ADHD, those who have mental illness and for all those affected by Hurricane Irene. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: A tragedy in Reno this week has taken nine lives and injured over fifty people. We ask that you watch over the injured, their families and friends, and bring healing to them. We also pray for the people who have lost loved ones. We know your love and comforting spirit will be with them. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We pray for Tristan's friend, Hayden, who is in the hospital on a ventilator and has suffered for a long time. His parents and little sister need your comfort and healing power for Hayden. Please come to them. We pray for a girl in Cooper's class who has cancer. We also pray for . . . and all those we name out loud or hold in the silence of our hearts who need healing . . . Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Renew the lives of those celebrating baptismal anniversaries especially, Cooper Jacobs and Alfred Schmidt. Continue to bless their lives and stir in their hearts passion for the ministry to which you have called them. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Please let the youth group have a safe trip to New Orleans next summer. Help them have fun, learn more about God, make new friends, and think more about God when they arrive back in Corte Madera. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: As we move forward with the church, and with the Stewardship program's *Giving Tree* stories, we pray that we can be moved by the stories of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Help us to bring these stories into our own lives. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

SHARING THE PEACE

We greet each other with love and compassion.

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

C: And also with you.

Greet one another with a sign of peace.

Be seated

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME AND TALENTS

Our offerings are received

We celebrate the gifts we have received. We acknowledge the ways we use our gifts.

Stand as you are able

OFFERTORY

Congregation
f
Lord, we of - fer up to

(Cont'd)

heav - en our sac - ri - fice now. Lord,
* Fine
op - en thou my lips and my mouth shall sing praise.
mf
1. Oh Lord, we of - fer thanks and praise for
D.S. al Fine
bless - ings poured up - on us. Lord, we

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Good and gracious God,

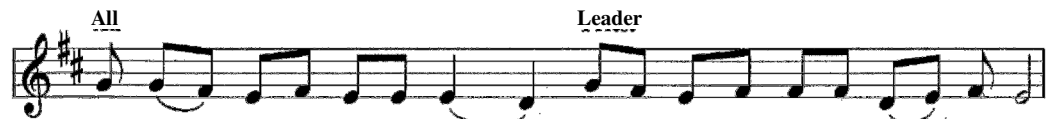
C: your generous ways have given us life and life together. When our anxious distractions are calmed, we come again to an awe of your way of loving in the world. Through these offerings you have joined our momentary labors to your eternal witness. You have gathered our common gifts into your extraordinary loving. May we be alive to you, saints in your service through Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING


We prepare ourselves to receive the bread & wine of communion which we believe is the body & blood of Christ.

Leader All Leader
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts.

All Leader



We lift ___ them up to the Lord. ___ Let us give thanks to the Lord ___ our God.




It is right to give God thanks ___ and praise. ___


PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

f Refrain



Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus, Sanc-tus. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly.



Sanc-tus, Sanc-tus, Sanc-tus. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

A: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

C: *Refrain*

A: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Heaven and earth, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

C: *Refrain*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Be seated

INVITATION TO COMMUNION


By eating the bread & drinking the wine we receive Christ into our lives to strengthen & nurture us spiritually.

All who believe that Christ comes to us through this bread and wine are invited to the communion table

*The bread and wine will be distributed continuously at the communion rail. Please come forward at the invitation of the usher. **White grape juice** is provided on each tray of glasses. You may take **red wine** or **white grape juice** from the **individual glasses** or drink from the **common cup**.*


LAMB OF GOD

Leader




Lamb of God, who takes a-way the sin ___ of the world. ___ Grant us your peace. ___

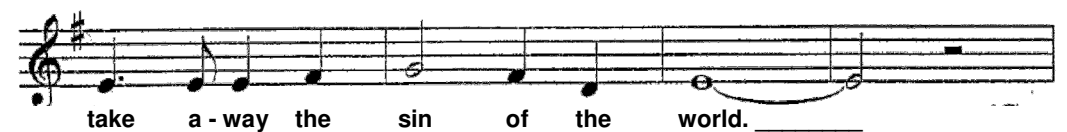
mp Congregation



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world. ___ Lamb of God you



take a-way the sin of the world. ___

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world. have mer - cy, have mer - cy,
Lamb of God grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

HEALING PRAYERS

Healing of body, mind and spirit is a gift from the grace-filled table of our Lord. Today, there is opportunity for individual prayer for healing for yourself or others as you leave the communion table.

MUSIC *Invocation of Inner Grace* Mourant

Stand as you are able

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
C: Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: God our shepherd,
C: **you have gathered us again from scattered places and nourished us with rich food in word and sacrament. Go with us now, that we may seek the lost, bind up the injured, and strengthen the weak, until you gather us and all the saints into your eternal feast with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

We are blessed so that we might be a blessing every day of the week.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen

Please turn and face the cross as the cross bearer recesses to the back of the church. This symbolizes that we are following Christ into the world.

SENDING HYMN *We Plow the Fields and Scatter* ELW (red book) # 681

DISMISSAL

We go out into our daily lives renewed, refreshed and restored for service in the world.

A: Saints Alive! – in Christ, live and love and serve generously.
C: **Amen! Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Evocaciones* Rodrigo

Music Note:

The hymn, *Here We Bring, Small or Great*, is a stewardship themed hymn written by Shirley Murray and Ron Klusmeier. The choir is introducing it to us today by singing it during communion (9:00 a.m.) and as the prelude (11:00 a.m.). It will be used at other times throughout our stewardship emphasis this fall.

Worship Assistants

Assisting Lay Minister	Betsy McCormick
Greeters	Stuart & Jeanne Burt
Usher	Rick West
Readers	Braxton & Tristan Mitchell
Communion Assistants	Braxton & Tristan Mitchell
Sound	Kerry Hansen
Altar Guild	Bev Kamphoefner
Counter	Janet Foster



The Sanctuary flowers are given by the Dunns in loving memory of Sammie Sanford Dunn



We wish to thank Sharon Guy & Karen Anderson for hosting coffee hour this morning.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday	Sept 25	9:00am 10:00am 10:15am 11:00am 8:00pm	Worship Service KOTK classes Adult Education led by Ted Peters Worship Service AA Meeting
Monday	Sept 26	9:30am 10:00am 6:30pm 7:30pm	Pastor Tom – immersion trip to El Salvador through 10/1 Pastor Kathryn – day off OA Meeting Newsletter Folding MA Meeting Men's Alanon
Tuesday	Sept 27	10:30am 7:00pm	Pastor Kathryn office hours: 10:00am -2:00pm Pastor Kathryn meets with David SLAA Meeting

Wednesday	Sept 28	12:15pm 7:00pm	Pastor Kathryn – day off Men's Lunch – Phyllis' Burgers, 4th Street, San Rafael Choir Practice
Thursday	Sept 29	9:30am	Pastor Kathryn study at home Recovery International
Friday	Sept 30	9:30am 5:30pm 8:30pm	Pastor Kathryn office hours: 11:30am-2:30pm OA Meeting Alanon Meeting AA Meeting
Saturday	Oct 1		
Sunday	Oct 2	9:00am 10:00am 10:15am 11:00am 5:00pm	Worship Service – Blessing of the animals KOTK classes Time & Talent Fair Worship Service – Blessing of the animals Confirmation Class

Announcements

+ Please keep **Pastor Tom** and the other religious leaders who will be **visiting El Salvador** this week (September 25th through October 1st) in your prayers. They are going on an immersion trip hosted by International Partners in Mission (IPM). (This is the group with whom Jim K. traveled to Nicaragua a couple years ago.) As part of the trip they will visit educational programs supported by IPM and some important cultural and religious sites.

+ **Our adult class** led by PLTS Professor Ted Peters on *Sin: Understanding Myself as a Sinner and Embracing It*, concludes this morning. Copies of an article co-authored by Ted Peters, *What Is Sin?* for the November issue of *The Lutheran* magazine are on the table in the narthex. Those interested in more in-depth reading, the book, *Sin – Radical Evil in Soul and Society* authored by Ted Peters is recommended. It is available from amazon.com. We thank Ted for leading this class.

+ Next Sunday, October 2nd is the **Blessing of the Animals Sunday**. You are invited to bring your pets (either on a leash or in an appropriate carrier) to either of the services. Seating will be set up on the lawn for those with large pets. During the services you will have the opportunity to bring your pets forward for a blessing.

+ A **Time & Talent Fair** will be held next **Sunday, October 2nd**. Come, and see what all the committee/ministry teams at church are planning or involved in. You can learn a lot about our church this way.

+ **Fabric (Sewing) Kits for Lutheran World Relief:** Next Sunday, October 2nd is the final day we will be collecting either the supplies or monetary contributions for the LWR Fabric Kits. See the flier found in the narthex for the requirements – these need to be followed exactly to maximize their usefulness. All the kits we collect will be delivered to the LWR Ingathering in Antioch on October 8th.

+ **2nd mile giving** for September is the ELCA Disaster Fund. Though vital all year, it follows in the wake of Hurricane Irene, and the fires in Texas when increased funding is needed to help with the recovery efforts of these disasters. Please make checks payable to MLC and note “2nd mile” or “ELCA Disaster” in the memo line.

+ **Pictorial Directory:** It is time to put together a new pictorial directory for our congregation. Lifetouch will be doing this for us. They will be here three days in October – 20, 21 & 22 to take our pictures. We ask that you sign up for a portrait sitting time. You may do this by visiting our web site www.marinlutheran.com. On the home page is a link to Lifetouch’s on line scheduling. **A sign-up sheet is also available this morning in the narthex where you can sign up for an appointment.**

+ **Middle School Retreat:** November 11-13 the Sierra Pacific Synod’s Youth Committee is leading a retreat themed, www.thefaithbook.god, for 6th – 8th graders at Mt. Hermon in Scotts Valley. We have sent in our early bird registration, but there is still room. Let Pastor Kathryn know if your child would like to join the five that are going and we will happily add them to our group. Cost: \$155.

+ **Remember these People in Prayer:** Anker & Lee Andersen, Emmy Anderson, Clint Bell, Margot Gergus, Dorothy Walters, Jean Wallman, Shirley & Dick Morrow (Susan’s parents), Don & Neva Conrad (Michele Jacobs’ parents), Sebastian (Cathie Schinski’s friend), Ilton da Costa, Jr., serving in Afghanistan.

Marin Lutheran Church

OFFICE HOURS

Phone

FAX

E-mail

Monday – Friday, 10:00am – 2:00pm

(415) 924-3782

(415) 924-3785

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www.marinlutheran.org

EMAILS

Pastor Tom Gable

Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

PastorTomGable@gmail.com

PastorKathryn@msn.com

Worship Attendance

Last Sunday

9:00am – 61; 11:00am – 31

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**Saints Alive
Living
Generously**