

Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches
September 13, 2026
Pastor Bethany Walker



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by
Dennis & Marlene Zarling
in honor of their wedding anniversary

Call to Worship Everlasting Arms based on Psalm 139

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sins, **whose mercy endures forever. Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. **Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Amen.**

Trusting in God's goodness, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, our lives are to be marked with the signs of discipleship. You call us to encourage and invite yet we judge and exclude. You call us to study, pray and worship yet we busy our minds and lives with noise that distract us from hearing your still, small voice. You call us to give and serve yet we take and demand without counting the cost. Forgive us O Lord for our ways and teach us

yours. Mark us once again with your grace and lead us on the road to new life in you for the sake of Jesus, our savior and Lord. Amen.

God meets us on the road of life and walks us into wholeness. Take heart, all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Let us now worship with hearts pointed to the Truth North, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story LBW 390

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
and tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story: How pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
and tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long.

I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
and tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

God of the Journey, always you are leading us into fuller faithfulness and deeper devotion. Guide us step by step as we walk on the road of discipleship. We follow Jesus trusting the Spirit to guide us in the ways you desire for us to live and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Children's Message

Centering Song

I Think of Jesus by Scott and Killian Music

Welcome the Word Will You Come and Follow Me ELW
Lord I will come and follow you when you but call my name.
Let me turn and walk with you and never be the same.
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Christ, Be Our Light ELW 715

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us, make us your living voice.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for food, many are hungry' longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be
servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession **Merciful God, receive our prayer**

Peace

Offering

Offertory Response

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Offering Prayer

God of Abundance, on this road of life you continually provide for us our daily bread. In thanksgiving for your faithfulness we return to you this portion. Use it to bless your people and your world even as we prepare to be blessed at this holy table, by Jesus, the bread of life. It is in his name we pray. Amen.

Words of Consecration

Following Jesus' death and resurrection he took a long walk on a road with a couple of his first disciples. They did not recognize him, for they thought he was still dead. It was not until they gathered at a table and Jesus broke bread that their eyes were opened as they recalled gathering for a similar meal just days before

with Jesus who took bread...bless O Lord these gifts of Christ's body and blood, let your Holy Spirit move over, in and through them so that as we receive them we might, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, recognize Jesus is with us, the who taught us to pray,

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Hymn

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

God of Grace, in the sharing of this sacred meal our hearts have been strangely warmed by Christ's presence. In this time of worship the scriptures have been opened to us. Send us now, fed and nourished, on the road of discipleship readied to be your people in your world in Jesus' name.

Announcements

Blessing

On the road of your faith life may you be encouraged in your discipleship by Jesus who meets you at the crossroads and guides your every step. Be blessed on your journey in the name of the Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sending Hymn

You Are Holy ELW 525

You are holy, you are whole. You are always ever more than we ever understand. You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near. Blessed are you coming here to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil raised from dead.

You are holy, you are wholeness, you are present.
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord! Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God!

Dismissal Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!