

### HERE IS YOUR GOD! ISAIAH 40:9

COLLINS

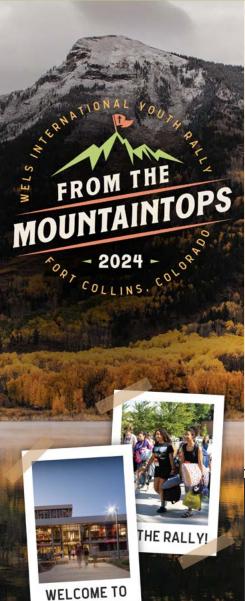
# JUNE 25-28, 2024

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY FORT COLLINS, COLORADO





## **#WELSYOUTHRALLY2024**



### 

#### 2024 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY

#### SCAN HERE TO ACCESS THE RALLY APP:

- see the schedule;
- see workshop information;
- find out more about nightly fun;
- learn more about the presenters, exhibitors, and sponsors; and
- get rally updates.



### WIFI

Connect to CSU's wireless guest network:

#### csu-guest

(no username or password required, but users must register with name and e-mail address and agree to terms & conditions)

Visit **housing.colostate.edu**/ **technology-services** or call 970-491-4734 for more information.

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#### YOUTH RALLY MISSION STATEMENT

The Rally exists to provide youth and youth leaders from across the synod a large-scale worship, education, fellowship, recreation, and service opportunity that deepens commitment to Christ and his church.

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### YOU MADE IT TO THE MOUNTAINS!

Welcome to the 2024 WELS International Youth Rally on the beautiful campus of Colorado State University here in Fort Collins, Colorado. This rally is truly special. Fifty years ago in the summer of 1974, the very first WELS youth rally was held in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Those teen attendees are now the age of your grandpas and grandmas. For 50 years, the rally experience has brought together generations of youth and youth leaders from WELS churches across the nation and neighboring countries to

- · deepen commitment to Christ, and
- put on display the incredible grace and power of the holy Christian church.

Now it's your turn to be part of the youth rally legacy. We do that as we experience "life" together in the coming days. Participate in worship. Attend your workshops. Meet new people. Make new friends. Enjoy good food. Just have fun!

Our rally theme is "From the Mountaintops," and we gather at the foot of the Rockies. Isaiah 40:9 says, "Go up on a high mountain.... Lift up your voice.... 'Here is your God!'" I am confident of this: You will be with him in worship, discuss him in devotions, and learn ways to serve him in your workshops. Best of all, you will do that... together.

So enjoy your four days at this year's rally. Listen up when announcements are made so you know what's going on, where it's going on, and when it's going on. There is so much packed into our time together that we don't want you to miss anything.

As you take in the sight of so many people gathered in one place, may it remind you that you are never alone in faith. It's humbling, awesome, and unforgettable all wrapped in one. And that's why I'm excited to be here with you.

May God bless you and give you a mountaintop experience!

See you around in the coming days,



Don Adjuster

PASTOR DONN DOBBERSTEIN Director, WELS Discipleship

#### 2024 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY COMMITTEE

Carolyn Barsch, Delaney Fenske, Pastor Joel Russow, Pastor Andy Schwartz, Nicole Westra, Jessica Kveen (social media and sponsors), and Kris Snyder (youth rally coordinator)

## **SCHEDULE**

TUESDAY, JUNE 25			
TIME	COMFORT FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP		
Noon–6:00 p.m.	Arrive and CYL check-in at Durrell, get settled, see the campus, dinner on your own		
7:00-8:30 p.m.	Welcome and worship (page 23) at Moby Arena. Bring your rally booklet!		
8:30–10:30 p.m.	Welcome to CSU party (see page 17 for details and locations)		
10:45 p.m.	Church group reflection (find your group, pick a spot, page 58)		
11:30 p.m.	In your room		
Midnight	Lights out		

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26		
TIME	HOPE FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP	
7:00–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast @ your assigned dining center during your mealtime. Check your name badge.	
9:15 a.m.	Devotion @ Moby (page 31)	
9:30–11:00 a.m.	Keynote #1: Pastor Phil Huebner and high school panel (page 54)	
11:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	Lunch @ your assigned dining center. Please allow those leaving on excursions to eat first.	
	Excursions depart at various times; check your personalized agenda; talk to your youth leader	
1:00-2:15 p.m.	Small group workshops session #1 (see page 20-21 for locations)	
2:45-4:00 p.m.	Small group workshops session #2	
4:15–5:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal @ Moby	
5:00–6:45 p.m.	Supper (same drill as breakfast)	
7:00-8:30 p.m.	Gather @ Moby: Branches Band concert	

## **SCHEDULE**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, CONTINUED		
TIME	HOPE FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP	
8:30–10:45 p.m.	Time to chill: page 17 for info	
10:45 p.m.	Church group reflection (find your group, page 61)	
11:30 p.m.	In your room	
Midnight	Lights out	

THURSDAY, JUNE 27		
TIME	CERTAINTY FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP	
7:00–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	
9:15 a.m.	Devotion @ Moby (page 35)	
9:30–11:00 a.m.	Keynote #2: Pastor Alex Groth (page 56)	
11:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	Lunch @ your assigned dining center. Please allow those leaving on excursions to eat first.	
	Excursions depart at various times; check your personalized agenda; talk to your youth leader	
1:00–2:15 p.m.	Small group workshops session #1 (see pages 20-21 for locations)	
2:45-4:00 p.m.	Small group workshops session #2	
4:15–5:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal @ Moby	
5:00–6:45 p.m.	Supper	
7:00–8:30 p.m.	Performance: Colorado Keys (see page 19)	
Following the concert	Meeting near Moby stage for all involved in distribution of the Lord's Supper during closing worship	
8:30–10:45 p.m.	Time to chill: page 18 for info	
10:45 p.m.	Church group reflection (find your group, page 64)	
11:30 p.m.	In your room	
Midnight	Lights out	

## **SCHEDULE**

FRIDAY, JUNI	28	
TIME	VICTORY FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP	
7:00–9:00 a.m.	Breakfast, pack up, and check out of your room (see page 14 for tips)	
9:30 a.m.	Closing worship and goodbye @ Moby	
11:00 a.m.	Depart for home	



FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS · 2024 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY

## **CONDUCT COVENANTS**

### YOUTH PARTICIPANT CHRISTIAN CONDUCT COVENANT

In the spirit of Ephesians 5, recognizing that I am to be an "imitator of God," desiring to let God's Word guide my life, and striving to live a life of thanks for all God has done for me in Christ, I promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to . . .

- Participate positively in all the keynote presentations, small group workshops, group devotions, and worship opportunities.
- Participate positively in all recreational and social activities planned.
- Cooperate with and follow the directions of rally staff and my own group's leader(s).
- Report inappropriate behavior to my group's youth leader and/or to rally staff.
- Assist in whatever ways asked to help make the rally a success.
- Abide by the following rules, regulations, and requirements:
  - 1) Leave drones, fireworks, weapons, laser pointers, etc., at home.
  - 2) Wear name badge and other rally items when asked.
  - 3) Respect rally site property.
  - 4) Follow designated curfews.
  - 5) Refrain from the use of controlled substances (alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, vaping, etc.).
  - 6) Follow the "no guys in girls' rooms; no girls in guys' rooms" rule.
  - 7) Remain on the premises at all times unless allowed otherwise.
  - 8) Remain with my group unless allowed by youth leader(s).
  - 9) Never travel anywhere at the rally site without a partner.

I further acknowledge that my failure to abide by the above could adversely affect my youth group's participation in future rallies and could result in my being asked to leave the rally at my own and/or my parents' expense.

## **CONDUCT COVENANTS**

### YOUTH LEADER CHRISTIAN CONDUCT COVENANT

In the spirit of Ephesians 5, recognizing that I am to be an "imitator of God," seeking to model Christ for those I am privileged to supervise and serve at this event, and understanding that my congregation and my group members' parents have legally entrusted their youth to me (in loco parentis), I promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to ...

- Personally participate along with my youth group members in the entire rally schedule.
- Cooperate with rally staff and assist in whatever ways asked to help make the rally a success.
- Ensure that my group's youth are attending worship, keynote presentations, small group workshops, and group devotions and contributing in a positive manner to them.
- Ensure that my group's youth are accountable and participating positively in all recreational and social activities planned.
- Ensure that my group's youth are adhering to any and all rules, regulations, and requirements, i.e., wearing required name badges, respecting rally site property, following curfews, refraining from use of controlled substances, following the "no guys in girls' rooms; no girls in guys' rooms" rule, remaining on premises unless allowed otherwise, etc.
- Remain on site and responsible for my group's youth at all times unless rally schedule or circumstances require otherwise.
- Be physically present and remain in the residence halls when my group's youth are required to be in them for the night.
- Refrain from personal consumption of alcohol or marijuana at any time during the rally.
- Refrain from the use of tobacco or vaping products.

I further acknowledge that my failure to abide by the above could adversely affect my youth group's participation in future rallies.

### **STUFF YOU NEED TO KNOW & REMEMBER**

#### WHERE DO I GO FOR HELP?

#### **Residence Hall Front Desk**

The CSU staff at each front desk will be able to assist you with any campus questions.

Regular service hours: 7:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m. After-hours phone assistance: 10:00 p.m.–7:00 a.m. (970-567-6323)

#### **Durrell Center Lower Level**

**CSU CES Event Desk** 

CSU Conference and Event Services (CES) staff Campus-related issues, information, and lost and found Daytime (7:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.): 970-491-5807 Overnight: 970-567-6323

#### Rally Help Desk

If you need a new rally booklet, want to exchange a T-shirt, have a problem with your bag, or want to chat about future rallies.

#### Who's Wearing What?

- WELS youth rally staff: forest green rally shirts
- WELS youth rally volunteers: blue rally shirts
- CSU CES staff: CSU-branded shirts or name tags—look for the ram's head logo

#### Lost and Found

Lost-and-found items from campus will be logged at the CSU CES desk (see above). You may want to also check your residence hall if you think you lost something there.

#### SAFETY, MEDICAL EMERGENCIES, AND FIRST AID

#### Be Safe

• Bedroom and hallway doors lock automatically; keep your key packet with you at all times (even that middle-of-the-night trip to the bathroom!).



- Travel in groups.
- If you see something suspicious, contact your CYL, residence hall front desk staff, or CSU police at 970-491-6425.
- In case of an emergency, call 911; then notify the front desk of your residence hall.

#### **First Aid**

- 8:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.: Rally first aid volunteers will be available in the lower level of the **Durrell Center, seminar room 1**.
- Overnight: 970-567-6323.
- As always, if it is a medical emergency, call 911!

Healthcare provider/medical clinic on campus The CSU Health and Medical Center (northwest corner of College and Prospect) offers two medical providers with hours and services open to the public: Associates in Family Medicine and UC Health (https://health.colostate.edu/about-the-csuhealth-and-medical-center).

#### Sunburn and Water

We encourage you to be intentional about drinking more water than normal. Use those cool rally water bottles! You can fill them around campus and in the dining centers. Also, your mom asked us to remind you to wear sunscreen.

### NAME BADGES AND WRISTBANDS

Name Badge + Key Packet on ONE LANYARD=WEAR IT! Your own personal workshop choices are on the back of your name badge.

- The name badge contains information that will help us if you need help.
- You will need your keys; room doors lock automatically.

#### Youth Leader Wristbands

Put on your wristband Tuesday at on-site check-in and leave it on until Friday at noon. This tells all CSU staff that you are an adult with an on-campus group.

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### **DINING, SNACKS, EXCURSIONS**

### Ram's Horn and The Foundry Dining Centers: Eat during your designated time and at your designated location!

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. Breakfast: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
- 11:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Lunch: Wednesday and Thursday (boxed lunches for some excursion groups due to activity schedules)
- 5:00-6:45 p.m. Dinner: Wednesday and Thursday

#### **Dining Center How-Tos**

- CSU dining operates all-you-care-to-eat facilities. You are assigned a dining hall and mealtime based on your housing location and your daily activity schedule.
- Your meal cards give you one swipe per meal period.
- If your card does not work properly or if you lose your meal card, a limited number of replacement cards will be located at the Academic Village front desk and/or The Foundry front desk as well as your assigned residence hall front desk. It's best to keep your meal card with your room keys and use your lanyard to keep them with you at all times.
- If you need assistance during your scheduled meal periods, ask the dining staff.
- If you would like to get your meal and eat outside the dining center, they offer to-go boxes that you can request as you enter the dining center. Do not get to-go boxes and then dine in.
- When you are finished with your meal, please bring all dishes and trash to the dish return area of the dining center.
- CSU has a "One Bite Rule" when leaving the dining center: You may take one small item with you—a piece of whole fruit, a cookie, etc.
- You may bring and fill a wide-mouth water bottle during your meal period. However, no personal food containers will be allowed.
- Leaving and re-entering during your meal period once you have swiped in is not permitted.

#### CSU is a cashless university and only accepts credit cards.

#### Snacks

Snacks are available for purchase via credit card in the convenience store located in Ram's Horn Dining (7:30–3:00) and at Cam's Lobby Shop in the Lory Student Center. Nothing will be open at night. Please grab snacks during the day and take advantage of the "One Bite Rule" in the dining center.

#### Excursions

If you signed up for excursions, information is included with your name badge and in your Contact Youth Leader's packet from checkin. Excursions depart at different times. Please pay attention to your specific details. You MUST be wearing your badge with your excursion listed in order to get on your excursion bus.

### WORDS OF WISDOM

- Always show Christian love and respect to other youth, youth leaders, CSU staff, and CSU students.
- Use your phone wisely and respectfully.
- Be courteous and attentive, especially during worship and presentations.
- Be an active participant in your small group workshops and nightly reflections.
- *Stay alert:* Be careful walking through campus while using your phones!

#### Not Allowed

- Alcohol\*
- Firearms/weapons\*
- Marijuana and other controlled substances\*
- Smoking/vaping/Juul\*
- Drones\*
- Fireworks\*
- Skateboards/hoverboards
- Laser pointers

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- Staying up beyond curfew
- Leaving the CSU campus without a youth leader once the rally starts

#### \*Prohibited on CSU property.

If you choose not to follow these requests, we may choose to send you home at your expense.

#### **RESIDENCE HALLS**

- No one of the opposite gender is allowed in your room during the rally.
- Take care of your room. Use all facilities properly.
- Be careful with your valuables. Respect and protect other people's property.
- If room damage occurs, please notify CSU staff so they can take care of it immediately instead of discovering it later.

#### **Checkout Procedures**

- Please vacate your room by 10:00 a.m. Friday.
- Take your trash out to the dumpster nearest your residence hall. Ask CSU front desk staff for assistance to locate the most appropriate dumpster.
- Leave all dirty linen in the room as is. Please DO NOT pile up or roll them up in a big ball.
- Please leave your bedroom door open.
- Youth Leaders, collect your group's keys (males and females separately if in different residence halls) and turn them in at the appropriate residence hall front desk. This includes regular keys and key cards (not meal cards). Any keys not returned will be charged up to \$170.
- Meal cards can be recycled by depositing them in the labeled container at your residence hall front desk; you may also keep them.
- Lanyards are yours to keep as a souvenir!
- Check in with your Contact Youth Leader for timing on loading your luggage into your mode of transportation.

### **EXHIBITS: DURRELL CENTER LOWER LEVEL**

EXHIBITS	ABOUT
Bethany Lutheran College	Bethany is a hilltop campus that's within walking distance of thriving downtown Mankato, Minn. The close campus community allows you to form lasting connections with outstanding professors and lifelong friends. Bethany offers 25 majors taught through the discerning lens of a Christian worldview.
Branches Band	Branches Band is providing the music for the rally (including the original rally theme song!) and has produced 13 studio albums and completed 11 songbooks with plans to produce more albums and worship resources in the future. For more information, scheduling, albums, sheet music, and other resources, visit the table or visit branchesband.com.
Christian Aid and Relief	Christian Aid & Relief's mission is to reflect Christ's love and compassion to suffering souls. Because of what Christ has freely done for us, we eagerly show we care by offering our time, talents, and treasures to those in need through disaster relief, humanitarian aid, and personal relief grants.
Conquerors through Christ	Conquerors through Christ has resources for those affected by sexual brokenness as well as resources to help guide us to good things God gives and away from lies pornography tells. Whether you're married, single, a parent, a child, or a called worker, we want to help you pursue godly sexuality.
Friends Network	Friends Network (FN) is a missionary sending organization that exists to build eternal friendships. To carry out this mission, FN recruits, trains, sends, and supports lay missionaries around the world.
Lutheran Military Support Group	How has your life been impacted by a loved one's military service? Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) provides Christ-centered support to WELS/ELS military service members, veterans, and their families through a variety of programs. Visit lutheranmilitary.org for more information!

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Martin Luther College	Martin Luther College, your WELS college of ministry, exists to train future pastors, teachers, and staff ministers for the public ministry. If you are considering service to the church in one of these capacities, then we are the college for you.
Thai Village, Inc.	Thai Village is a nonprofit ministry that trains and employs women and men from the local low-income community in Thailand partnered with the local Thai Lutheran church. We make a variety of handmade crafts sold online and through displays. Stop by to shop and support gospel outreach in Thailand!
WELS Campus Ministry	College is hard. Don't leave your faith life at home. We can help. WELS Campus Ministry, a ministry of WELS Home Missions, provides resources, support, and encouragement to congregations that serve college students. Find a campus ministry program or learn more at wels.net/college.
WELS Ministry to the Military	WELS Military Services seeks to serve our armed forces personnel with our own civilian chaplaincy, faithful to God's Word. This work is carried out by 2 full-time civilian chaplains and over 120 military contact pastors whose churches are near military installations across the U.S.
WELS Mission Journeys	Mission Journeys helps youth groups serve their Lord through mission trips.
Wisconsin Lutheran College	Students at Wisconsin Lutheran College learn from nationally ranked, Christian faculty and achieve academic excellence while growing in their faith and becoming Christian leaders ready to make an impact in nearly any career field throughout the world. Explore WLC at WLC.EDU.
Wisconsin Lutheran High School	Wisconsin Lutheran High School (WLHS) prepares its multiethnic student body for productive, Christ-centered lives in a diverse world—whether Choice, tuition-paying, local, or from another state/country. WLHS meets every student's level of academic readiness to foster optimal growth and high achievement for a successful transition to college, military service, or workplace. For more info, visit wlhs.org or e-mail info@wlhs.org.

Many exhibitors are giving away great prizes! Stop by their exhibits before 5:00 p.m. Thursday to enter. Drawing results will be announced Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. in the Moby Arena before the concert.

### FREE TIME: 4:00-6:30 P.M.

- Exhibitors and Rally Store in Durrell ABC and hallway
- Choir rehearsal 4:15–5:00 p.m. in Moby Arena
- Game rooms in each residence hall, the Pavilion, and Durrell
- Rally mural with Abby and Maida in Piñon lobby (4:00–5:00 p.m.)
- WELS Christian Aid and Relief (CAR) service project in Durrell AB
- Open outdoor courts: balls at the WELS rally help desk in the Durrell Center
- Don't forget to eat supper (at your scheduled time and location)!

### TIME TO CHILL: 8:30-10:45 P.M.

#### Tuesday

- WELCOME to CSU!
- Pavilion: karaoke inside, The LEGO Batman Movie showing outside
- Durrell Center: exhibits, Thai Village, CAR service project, Rally Store
- Durrell and Rec Center lawns: inflatable obstacle course, hamster balls, games, and Just Dance Now
- Rec center outdoor courts: lit and open (balls at the WELS rally help desk in Durrell; please return them)
- Game rooms open in residence halls, Pavilion, Durrell
- SNACKS: Moby ramp; 1 drink, 2 snacks per person

#### Wednesday

- Durrell Courtyard: Viking Steel performs
- Durrell and Rec Center lawns: inflatables, archery tag, mini golf, and more!
- Pavilion: karaoke inside, Shrek showing outside
- Piñon lobby: work on the rally mural with Abby and Maida
- Game rooms open in residence halls, Pavilion, Durrell
- SNACKS: Moby ramp; 1 drink, 2 snacks per person
- Rec center outdoor courts: lit and open (balls at the WELS rally help desk in Durrell; please return them)
- Durrell: exhibits, Thai Village, CAR service project, Rally Store

#### Thursday

- Pavilion: '90s live music inside and *Back to the Future* showing outside
- Durrell: photo booth, exhibits, Thai Village, CAR service project
- Piñon lobby: work on the rally mural with Abby and Maida
- Durrell and Rec center lawns: photo booth, square 9 volleyball, inflatables, and Just Dance Now
- Rec center outdoor courts: lit and open (balls at the WELS rally help desk in Durrell; please return them)
- Game rooms open in residence halls, Pavilion, Durrell
- SNACKS: Moby ramp; 1 drink and 2 snacks, but after 9:30 p.m.— FINISH THEM OFF!

#### Note that the CSU Recreation Center is not available to our group.

### RALLY WORSHIP MUSICIANS

#### Viking Steel

Wisconsin Lutheran High School's Viking Steel was started in 2017 and uses the steel pan native to the Caribbean islands of Trinidad and Tobago. The program currently has three cocurricular steel bands, two junior Vikings camps, and one summer band. Wisconsin Lutheran High School has the largest steel band program in the state.



#### **Branches Band**

Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches."

Branches Band, a Milwaukee-based music group, uses their love for music to identify the Savior of the world—Jesus! From a fresh take on ancient hymns to original compositions, from guitars and piano to vocal harmonies, the truth of God's love and grace is at the root of the Branches Band ministry.

Branches Band has performed in all 50 states and Canada and has served over 600 congregations by offering Christian concerts, assisting with worship, and developing music resources for today's church leaders

and worship teams. Since 2008, Branches Band has produced 13 studio albums and completed 11 songbooks with plans to produce more albums and worship resources in the future. For more information, scheduling, albums, sheet music, and other resources, visit branchesband.com or find us



Jeremy, Andy, and Rachel

on Facebook at facebook.com/branchesband.

### NIGHTLY ARENA HIGHLIGHTS

#### Wednesday Night: Branches Band Concert

You have heard them in worship, now enjoy "Psalms and Stories"—a unique concert experience centered on psalms of the Bible and the stories behind them.

#### Thursday Night: Colorado Keys Dueling Pianos

Dueling pianos is a unique and interactive musical performance where two exceptionally talented pianists engage with the crowd while playing a wide range of music genres spanning from classic rock and pop hits to beloved sing-alongs and chart-topping favorites.



With each note, the excitement builds as the pianists feed off the energy of the crowd, taking song requests, cracking jokes, and delivering electrifying performances that will have you dancing, singing, and cheering along all night long. Our dynamic duo takes center stage, captivating audiences with their impressive musical prowess, quick wit, and boundless energy.

## **WORKSHOP LOCATIONS**

### WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY SMALL GROUP WORKSHOP LOCATIONS

Check your name badge to see which small group workshops you are registered to attend. Match the numbers with those below to find the locations (see campus map and Lory Student Center maps at the end of the booklet).

#	WORKSHOP TITLE	LOCATION
Y01	Be the Ball	Lory Ballroom D
Y02	"I Stink at Bible Study—HELP!"	Ingersoll Event Center
Y03	Psychological Stewardship: How to Live with All Your Heart, Mind, and Soul	Ingersoll Basement
Y04	Apologetics: Defending the Faith by Caring for the Skeptic	Lory Ballroom B
Y05	Did God Really Say "Sex Is Good"?	Lory 322
Y06	Creating for the Creator	Piñon Academic Commons and Lobby
Y07	In Humility Value Others Above Yourselves	Lory 390
Y08	Known: Your Secret Identity	Lory Ballroom A
Y09	Wonderfully Made, Fully Known: Where LGBTQ Matters Meet Jesus	Lory 308-310
Y10	Built, Not Found: Creating Community & Connecting to Christ	Lory 304-306
Y11	5 Reasons NOT to Be a Lutheran	Lory Ballroom C
Y12	The Vocation Vacation: A Tasty Treat, a Comfy Chair, and the Public Ministry Impact	Lory 312

## **WORKSHOP LOCATIONS**

#### Youth Leader Small Group Workshops

#	WORKSHOP TITLE	LOCATION
L01	Thinking Differently: An Approach to Young Adult Ministry	Moby Arena
L02	Teambuilding Activities for Effective Communication and Developing Relationships	Lory Longs Peak
L03	Connecting Youth Locally and Nationally	Lory 300



FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS · 2024 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY

### RALLY SONG

### **"FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS"**

Bring good news to Zion; go up a high mountain. Lift your voice with strength. Lift it up; do not be afraid!

Shout from the mountaintops: Jesus is Lord! That every knee should bow in heaven and on earth. Shout from the mountaintops: Here is your God! That every tongue proclaim the glory of the Lord!

Proclaim peace, salvation, comfort of sin forgiven. Faith comes from hearing the message about Christ!

Shout from the mountaintops: Jesus is Lord! That every knee should bow in heaven and on earth. Shout from the mountaintops: Here is your God! That every tongue proclaim the glory of the Lord!

The word of our God, the word of our God, The word of our God endures forever!

Shout from the mountaintops: Jesus is Lord! That every knee should bow in heaven and on earth. Shout from the mountaintops: Here is your God! That every tongue proclaim the glory of the Lord!

Shout from the mountaintops: Jesus is Lord! That every knee should bow in heaven and on earth. Shout from the mountaintops: Here is your God! That every tongue proclaim the glory of the Lord!

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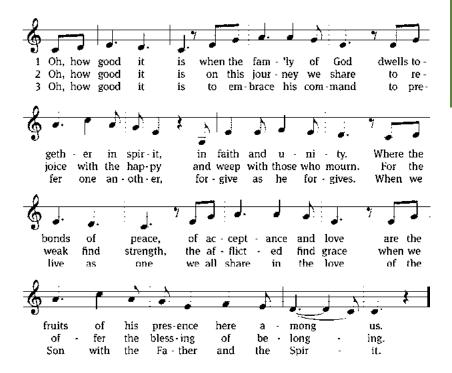
### **TUESDAY OPENING WORSHIP**

#### **<u>COMFORT</u> FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP**

**Pastor Andrew Schwartz,** Christ the King, Bremerton, Wash.; youth rally planning committee member

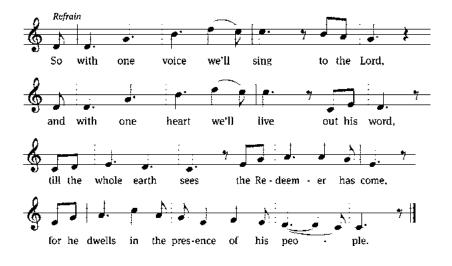
#### Oh, How Good It Is

The congregation sings all the stanzas.



Refrain on next page

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#### Stand

#### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### **Confession and Absolution**

A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

Isaiah 40:6-8



God's enduring Word declares, "Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy." *Proverbs 28:13* 

Branches Band sings st. 1; the congregation joins on st. 2.



Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 51:1a,3,4a,2

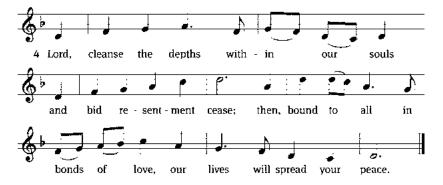
#### Time for silent confession

Sung by Branches Band:

3 In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:

how small are others' debts to us, how great our debt to you! Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. Isaiah 40:1,2 Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:31

All sing:



Be seated

Reading Reading Ephesians 4:29–5:2 Luke 7:40-50



#### Sermon

Isaiah 40:1–6

CW 940

Stand

#### Creed: We All Believe in One True God

The congregation sings all stanzas.

1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and 2 We all be lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Ho - ly Ghost, 3 We all con fess the who from both for -Ho - ly Ghost, ev - er - pres - ent help in need. Mar • y's who de - scend - ed from Son, his throne e'er pro - ceeds, who up - holds and com - forts uş by whose might  $\cdot$  y praised by all the heav'n - ly host. sal - va - tion won, by whose cross and and for us Bless ed. tri - als, fears, and needs. in ali ho - ly ìs pow'r a - lone all made and wrought and done. death are we res - cued from all mis - er - y. Trin - i - ty, praise to ter - nal - ly! you е -

Be seated



## CW 575

By Grace I'm Saved

The congregation sings all stanzas.

6 · .			0	•	J _		
1 By ga	race I'm	saved, grad	e free	and b	oound-less;	my so	ul, be -
2 By gr	race God's	Son, ou	r on -	ly	Sav - ior,	came do	wn to
	race! O	mark thi	s word	of	prom - ise	when yo	u are
4 By ga	race to	tim - id	hearts	that	trem - ble,	in tri	b - u -
5 By gi	race! On	this Pl	rest	when	dy - ing;	in J	e - sus'
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earth	to bear	our sin.	Was	it 1	be - cause	of you	r own
by	your sins	op - pressed	i, when	Sa - t	an plagues	your trou	i - bled
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co <b>n</b> -sc		Easther's			ing rest.	What r	ea - son
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trou - b		Fa - ther's l	heart is	0 -	ing rest.	What i Where o	ea - son
trou - b di - ti	ole, the on, I	Fa - ther's al - so l	heart is know my	o - Sav -	ing rest. pen wide ior's voice	What n . Where c . My h	ea - son could I eart is
trou - b di - ti	ole, the on, I	Fa - ther's al - so l	heart is know my	o - Sav -	ing rest. pen wide ior's voice	What n . Where c . My h	ea - son could I eart is
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#### Prayer

WORSHIP

### **WORSHIP**

#### Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### Blessing

From the Mountaintops

(see p. 27)



### WEDNESDAY MORNING DEVOTION

### HOPE FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP

Rev. Daniel Bondow, Living Savior Lutheran Church, Littleton, Colo.

Hasten to save me, O God. O Lord, come quickly to help me.

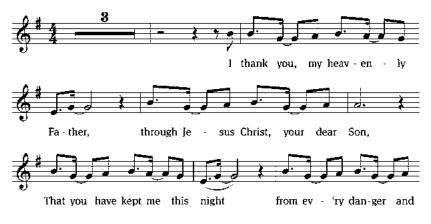
The Mighty One, God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets.

From Zion, perfect in beauty, **God shines forth.** 

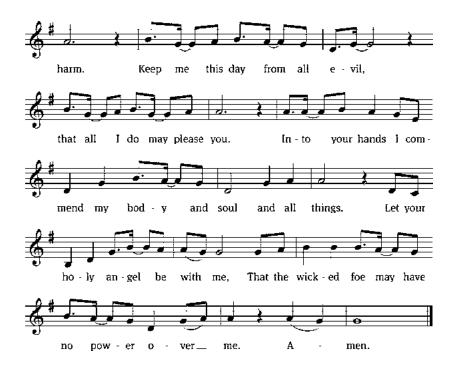
God says, "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me."

#### Luther's Morning Prayer

Sung first by Branches Band, then by all.



31



#### **On Eagle's Wings**

CW 821

Branches Band will sing the verses; the congregation joins on the refrains.

 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life, say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!" (Refrain)

WORSH



- 2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear; under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. (Refrain)
- 3 For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. (Refrain)

#### Devotion

Isaiah 40:12–27

#### Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Let us praise the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### Doxology

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! **Amen.** 

From the Mountaintops

(see p. 27)

### **THURSDAY MORNING DEVOTION**

### **CERTAINTY FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP**

Rev. Stephen Koelpin, CrossView Lutheran Church, Windsor, Colo.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Hasten to save me, O God; O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Jesus Christ is Lord of all: praise and thanks to God!

From the Mountaintops

Devotion

(see p. 27)

Isaiah 40:7,8

WORSHI

FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS · 2024 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY

#### How Firm a Foundation

Branches Band sings stanza 1; the congregation joins on the remaining stanzas.

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## Lord's Prayer

Sung by Branches Band

## **Prayer for Grace**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

#### Amen.

Let us praise the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### Blessing

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.** 



# FRIDAY CLOSING WORSHIP

# VICTORY FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP

**Rev. Philip Hirsch,** *Hope Lutheran Church, Manhattan, Kan., WELS Nebraska District president* 

A note about today's service: The Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, will be celebrated in today's service. The Bible teaches us that Jesus offers us his body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins in the Lord's Supper. The Bible also instructs us that receiving the Lord's Supper together is a public expression of our complete "oneness," or unity of faith. Out of love for God and these truths his Word teaches, we invite to the Lord's Supper only those who have expressed unity of faith through membership in a Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) congregation, or membership in a congregation from WELS' sister denomination, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).

### From the Mountaintops

(see p. 27)

CW 172

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

### Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.



If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words,
and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**.

### Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



WORSHII



41

# The Word

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever. **Amen.** 

Be seated

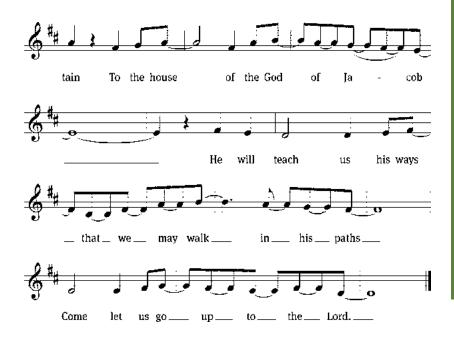
# Reading

Romans 8:35-39

### The Mountain

Branches Band will sing the first refrain and the verses; the congregation joins on the following refrains.





The law will go out from Zion, the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for all peoples. *Refrain* 

On this mountain the Lord will prepare a feast, a rich banquet of food for all peoples. Nation will not rise up against nation nor will they train for war ever again. *Refrain* 

Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord. *Refrain* 

Stand

## Gospel

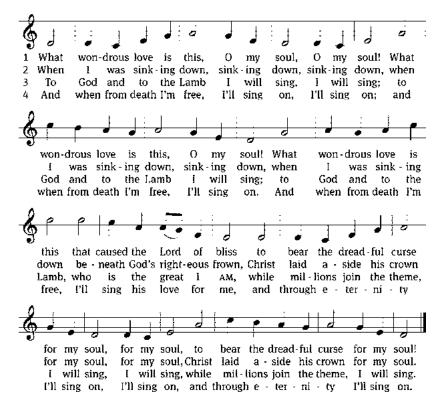
John 14:1-3,25-27

Be seated

### What Wondrous Love Is This

CW 526

Branches Band will sing stanza 1; the congregation joins on the remaining stanzas.



#### Sermon

Isaiah 25:6-9

Stand

### **Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

- God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
- of one being with the Father.
- Through him all things were made.
- For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.
- For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
- He suffered death and was buried.
- On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
- He ascended into heaven
  - and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son

is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# **The Sacrament**

## Preface

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



**VORSH** 



### Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.** 

Be seated

### **Distribution Instructions**

Communicants should proceed to stations at the direction of the ushers. Approach and receive the bread first. (If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please place your palm on an opposite shoulder before extending it to receive the wafer.) Then proceed to receive an individual cup of wine. (If you require grape juice, please place your palm on an opposite shoulder before receiving the individual cup.) After communing, dispose of the empty individual cup in the provided receptacle and return to your seat.

### Distribution

After all have communed, the minister says:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go + in peace. Amen.

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.



Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

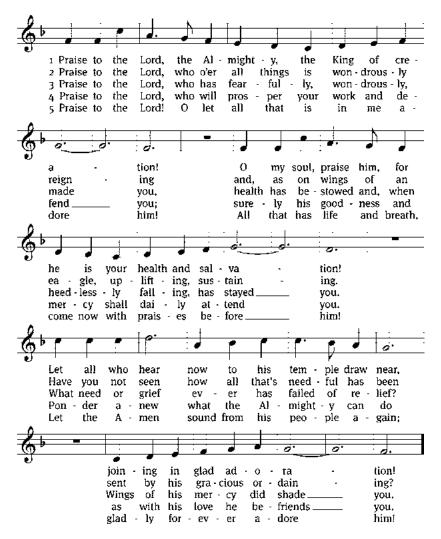
Be seated

#### Blessing

Sung by Branches Band

### Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Alleluia)

Branches Band and the Rally Choir will sing stanzas 1 and 4; the congregation joins on stanzas 2, 3, and 5.



50



# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

### **Comfort** from the Mountaintop

### Oh, How Good It Is

Tune: Stuart Townend; Ross Holmes; Kristyn Getty; Keith Getty Tune: © 2012 Getty Music, Parakeet Boots Music. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 739468

#### Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt. Tune: A Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, Harrisonburg, 1820, ed. Ananias Davisson Text: © 1969 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 739468 Tune: Public domain

#### From the Mountaintops

Text: © 2024 Andy Braun. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: © 2024 Andy Braun. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### We All Believe in One True God

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684 Tune: adapt. Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775; Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 3rd. ed., Meiningen, 1693 Text and tune: Public domain

### By Grace I'm Saved

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Christian L. Scheidt, 1709–1761, abr. Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775 Text and tune: Public domain

### Hope from the Mountaintop

#### Luther's Morning Prayer

Text: Martin Luther, adapt. Rachel D. Braun Tune: Rachel D. Braun Text: Public domain Tune: © 2019 Rachel D. Braun. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### **On Eagle's Wings**

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1951, abr. Tune: Michael Joncas, b. 1951 Text and tune: © 1979 OCP Publications. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 739468

### **Certainty** from the Mountaintop

### **How Firm a Foundation**

Text: A Selection of Hymns, London, 1787, ed. John Rippon, alt. Tune: Genuine Church Music, Winchester, 1832, ed. Joseph Funk Text and tune: Public domain

### Victory from the Mountaintop

### Glory to God in the Highest

Tune: Marty Haugen Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 739468

### The Mountain

Text: © 2010 Rachel D. Braun. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: © 2010 Rachel D. Braun All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### What Wondrous Love Is This

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, Lynchburg, 1811, alt. Tune: Southern Harmony, New Haven, 1835, ed. William Walker Text and tune: Public domain

### Holy, Holy, Holy

Tune: Marty Haugen Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 739468

# Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Alleluia)

Text: Joachim Neander Tune (hymn melody): Ander Theil Des Erneuerten Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, alt.; "Alleluia": Branches Band



WORSHIP

Text and hymn melody: Public domain "Alleluia" tune: © 2014 Branches Band. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Opening worship: Custom order of service Wednesday devotion: Start of Work (Prime) from Christian Worship Thursday devotion: Morning (Matins) from Christian Worship Closing worship: Setting Two from Christian Worship

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### NOTES:



# WEDNESDAY KEYNOTE #1@ MOBY ARENA

# HOPE FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP: YOU ARE NOT ALONE Rev. Dr. Phil Huebner and student panel, WLHS, Milwaukee, Wis.

### Text: Isaiah 40:28-31

<sup>28</sup> Do you not know? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.
<sup>29</sup> He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.
<sup>30</sup> Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;
<sup>31</sup> but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,

What encouraged you from these words of God?

they will walk and not be faint.

What encouraged you from Pastor Huebner's message?

# PROGRAM

You are not alone! Others have struggled just like you do, and they have found strength and hope in the Lord just as you do too!

In the space below, write down ways that you may have connected to each teen's story and what encouragement they gave you.

Olivia:	
Lauren:	
Micah:	
Hannah:	
Ella:	
Full group discussion:	

# PROGRAM

# THURSDAY KEYNOTE #2 @ MOBY ARENA

# **CERTAINTY FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP**

Pastor Alex Groth, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Cincinnati, Ohio

## **Things to Remember**

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### **Visiting False Mountain**

Fill in the blank: The saddest days of my life still are \_\_\_\_\_

### **Visting Perplexing Mountain**

Here are a few promises God makes \_\_\_\_\_\_.

### **Visiting Ascension Mountain**

Fill in the blank: The point of the balloon is \_\_\_\_\_\_

### Visiting Good News Mountain

<sup>9</sup> You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah,



# PROGRAM

"Here is your God!"
<sup>10</sup> See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power,
and he rules with a mighty arm.
See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies him.
<sup>11</sup> He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have young (Isaiah 40:9–11).

Please, God, give me certainty that \_\_\_\_\_

Please, God, help	find certainty.
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# NOTES:

PROGRAM

# FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS TUESDAY, JUNE 25

# **<u>COMFORT</u> FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP**

God bless your group reflection as you encourage one another and are encouraged by God's Word! These questions are meant to guide (and not restrict) your group's reflection. You may spend more time on some questions than others. You may even pursue discussions that spring from these questions or arise from worship or workshops throughout the day. The important thing about this reflection time is that you connect with God's Word, connect with one another, and close your day together in prayer.

### Reflecting on the Day Together . . .

 Go around the group and share one highlight or takeaway from the day and one lowlight, frustration, or challenge from the day. (Make sure only one person is talking at a time; be respectful and encouraging as you listen to others. Large groups can split into smaller groups at the chaperones' discretion.)

**Connecting God's Word to Our Lives**... The rally theme comes from Isaiah 40:9: "You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God!'" The evening reflections focus on portions of Isaiah 40. Tonight's reflection looks at the mountaintop message of God's comfort.

• Read Isaiah 40:1-4:

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her

that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.
<sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling:
"In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
<sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level,

the rugged places a plain.

- Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. God wants his people to be comforted! That message is so important he mentions it twice. What are some reasons that you need God's comfort in your life right now? (To get you thinking, what about your life as a teenager makes you uncomfortable? Or what about life in this sinful, broken world gives you discomfort?)
- Isaiah 40 begins with a double message of God's comfort, and verse 2 focuses specifically on the double comfort of God's forgiveness.
  - A. If we are honest, our sin makes us uncomfortable. As we scan the "landscape" of our hearts and lives, we may find mountains of pride or jealousy, crooked thoughts, rough attitudes, and rugged words and actions. Think about a sin from the past week or from the past year that has bothered you. Describe what that sin makes you feel like. (You don't need to talk about the sin; just describe what the guilt feels like and how it has impacted you. For one sinner's description, read Psalm 32:3,4.)

- B. Reflect on your day today (especially opening worship) and the last worship service you attended at your church. Approximately how many times did you hear the comfort of God's forgiveness and about his love for you? How was that forgiveness or love described?
- C. Think about the many different words, phrases, pictures, promises, and stories the Bible uses to describe God's forgiveness (e.g., Psalm 103:12, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us"). Share a few examples of how God's forgiveness and love are described throughout the Bible.
- D. Why do you think God comforts us with his forgiveness—in the Bible and throughout our lives—so often?
- Talk with someone next to you and complete the following statement. (Time permitting, you may want to share a few of them out loud with the whole group.)
  - This is a Bible verse, promise, or Bible story that has comforted me in uncomfortable times . . .

**Closing with Prayer...** Chaperones, ask for prayer requests and then lead the youth in a prayer, keeping in mind the comfort of God's forgiveness and love. If there are no prayer requests or you would like to have the group pray together, join in praying Martin Luther's Evening Prayer below.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

# FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

# HOPE FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP

# Reflecting on the Day Together . . .

• As you share the highs and lows of your day, also share one takeaway from a devotion, a keynote, or a workshop you attended. (What was something you want to remember or that you found encouraging? What was your favorite workshop today? What would you like to learn more about after today?)

**Connecting God's Word to Our Lives** . . . Tonight's reflection looks at the mountaintop message of the hope God gives us.

- Read Isaiah 40:27-31:
- <sup>27</sup> Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel,
- "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"?
- <sup>28</sup> Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

- <sup>29</sup> He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.
- <sup>30</sup> Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;
- <sup>31</sup> but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.



They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

- Put into your own words what Jacob and Israel were complaining about to the Lord (verse 27).
- Think about your own words (maybe even from today). What have you complained about in your life to the Lord?
- God responded to his people's complaints by reminding them who he is, what he did for them, and what he would do for them. Find one truth in these verses that teaches us about who God is, one truth that teaches what he does, and one truth that teaches what he will do.
- Apply your answers from the last two questions to your life. What do you want to remember about God for the times when you are ready to complain or feel forgotten? Or how does it impact your life as you focus more on God and his promises and less on yourself and your struggles?
- *Even youths grow tired and weary.* Choose one of the following questions to discuss (or have half your group discuss question A and the other half discuss question B).
  - A. What pressures or temptations are you facing at this stage of your life that make you tired and weary?
  - B. If you were hired by the devil to devise a plan to wear down youth and draw them away from the Lord, what would your plan be?
- Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.
  - A. God's Word renews our strength and equips us for life's pressures and the devil's schemes. What does God's Word teach us about hope in the following verses?

- Psalm 62:5,6: "Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken."
- Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
- Lamentations 3:21-23: "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."
- B. God uses a beautiful picture—soaring on eagles' wings—to describe the impact of the hope he gives. Imagine you were actually soaring on the wings of an eagle, thousands of feet above the earth. Think about what you would see, what you would experience, what you would be thinking. Now answer this: What is God trying to convey to us with this picture? What does he want us to know or trust?

**Closing with Prayer**... Chaperones, ask for prayer requests and then lead the youth in a prayer, keeping in mind how the Lord renews and strengthens.

(If there are no prayer requests or you would like to have the group pray all together, join in the Lord's Prayer.)



# FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS THURSDAY, JUNE 27

# **CERTAINTY FROM THE MOUNTAINTOP**

## Reflecting on the Day Together . . .

• For the opening reflection, share a "best," "newest," and "weirdest." What was the best thing about your time at the rally? What was something new you tried, or did you meet someone new? What was something weird or odd that happened during your time at the rally?

**Connecting God's Word to Our Lives** . . . Tonight's reflection looks at the mountaintop message of the certainty of God's Word and God's presence.

- Read Isaiah 40:7-11:
- <sup>7</sup> "The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass.
- <sup>8</sup> The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."
- <sup>9</sup> You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain.
- You who bring good news to Jerusalem,
  - lift up your voice with a shout,
- lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"
- <sup>10</sup> See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm.
- See, his reward is with him,
  - and his recompense accompanies him.

<sup>11</sup> He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

- Isaiah 40:7 reminds us how quickly life changes and how temporary it is. We are reminded of life's changes and brevity in grass that withers and flowers that lose petals and then fall. But we are also reminded of these things throughout our lives. Think back to the last year of your life. What has changed about you, your interests, your family, and your life? Think back to the last four years. What other changes have you noticed?
- Isaiah 40:8 assures us that even as life around us changes and decays, God's Word endures forever!
  - A. Make a list of things in your life that are uncertain. (I'm not certain of . . . I'm not certain that . . .)
  - B. Now make a list of things in your life that are certain because you have God's enduring Word in your life. Begin with our verses from Isaiah 40.
    - Isaiah 40:9 makes me certain that ...
       Isaiah 40:10 makes me certain that ...
       Isaiah 40:11 makes me certain that ...
    - Jesus' life, death, and resurrection make me certain that . . .
    - The "big" chapters in the Bible like Psalm 23, Romans 8, \_\_\_\_\_ (your choice), or my confirmation verses make me certain that . . .
  - C. Compare your lists (the uncertainties and the certainties). What do you notice? What are your takeaways and applications?

- As you think back to the rally overall, choose one of the following questions to answer:
  - What is a mountaintop message that encouraged you and you want to take home with you?
  - What is a message that you hope all teens take home with them?
  - How has the rally experience impacted or changed you?
- **Closing with Prayer...** Build a prayer of thanksgiving. The chaperone will begin the prayer, and near the end, each person is encouraged to share one reason to give thanks to God.

Lord God Almighty, we thank you that you give your people many skills and spiritual gifts. Help us use all our abilities to serve the needs of others and to strive for your honor and glory. As we leave the rally, bless all who gathered here. Strengthen us in our faith and help us seize the momentous purposes you have for us as your royal people. And finally, we give you our thanks and praise. I personally would like to thank you for . . . in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### New International Version (NIV)

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# **Campus Ministry**









Christian Aid and Relief







PUBLIC

# MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE



# - YOUR VACATION DESTINATION

# PLACES

"Through the ministry, I have been able to travel to places I never imagined!" Leah

# PEOPLE

"It's the people you serve in ministry that make this job so exciting!" Ben

# **ADVENTURE**

"My life in this congregation is one amazing adventure after another!" Caleb



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# **WELS CHRISTIAN AID AND RELIEF**

# COMMUNITY, CARE, AND COMPASSION YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITY

WELS Christian Aid and Relief (CAR) is modeling the Community Care & Compassion (CCC) grant program\* at the 2024 Youth Rally in Fort Collins, Colo. Through this opportunity, rallygoers will learn about compassion ministry through hands-on involvement while preparing packages for people in their hometown communities who may not have a church home.

\*Youth groups must be pre-registered for this activity.

Join us at **Durrell Center A** and design a card, make a fleece blanket, and create a gift with LEGOs. Care packages will be shared with:

- Kids in need
- First responders
- People who are homebound



Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. Galatians 6:10



# **YOUTH RALLY ACTIVITIES**



# **CARD DESIGN CENTER COUPON**

Design a free card in **Durell Center A**. Open to all youth rally attendees!

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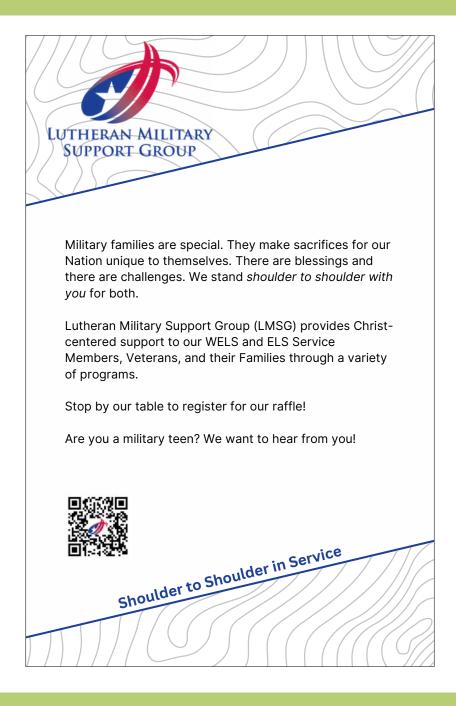


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#### FORWARD IN CHRIST

#### **DO YOU LIKE TO WRITE?** Do you have a Christ-centered story to share?



Forward in Christ magazine is looking for personal articles written by teens that touch on issues affecting Christian young people in today's world, such as:

- Finding God's purpose in your life
- Living your faith through service
- Witnessing to unbelieving friends
- Combating stress and anxiety
- Dealing with life's challenges

Submit your story as well as read other stories from teens or for teens.

Go to forwardinchrist.net/teens to submit your story or scan the QR code to the right!







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#### 2024 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY COMMITTEE

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"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast" (Ephesians 2:8,9).

# THANK YOU

#### THANK YOU!

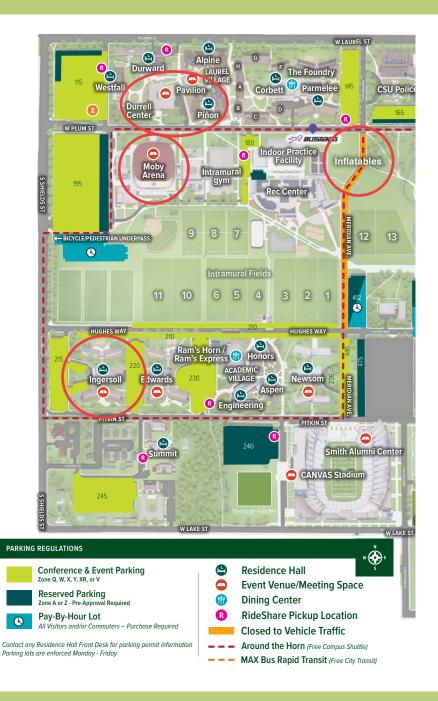
- My family: We have had some rally adventures. These wouldn't happen without you!
- Members of the 2024 Rally Planning Committee: We made it!
- WELS Commission on Discipleship, administrator Pastor Donn Dobberstein, Laura Schulz, and chairman Pastor John Boggs
- Tess and the entire CSU CES
- Bethany Lutheran College, Martin Luther College, and Wisconsin Lutheran College for the bags and water bottles
- Our exhibitors and sponsors for their presence and support of the rally
- Our designer, Briana Lambrecht, who continues to serve all of us with her God-given gifts
- Everyone else who helped make this rally possible
- And you, rally attendees, who make this event worthwhile! I am blessed to have been involved starting with the 25th year of rallies in 1999 and now the 50th.

This

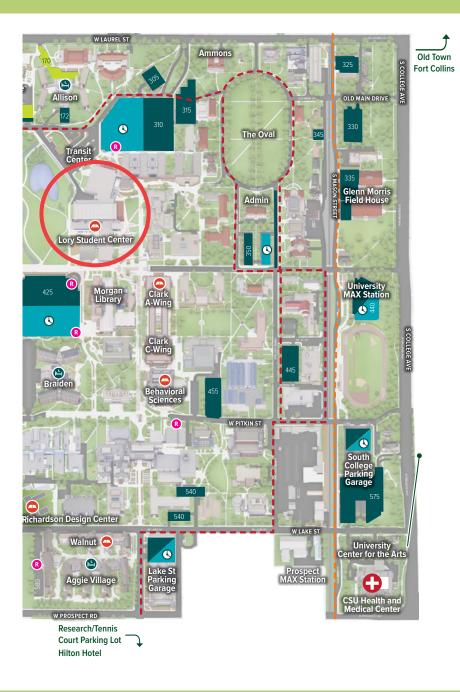
KRIS SNYDER, Youth Rally Coordinator

> "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10).

#### **CAMPUS MAP**



# **CAMPUS MAP**



# LORY STUDENT CENTER-LEVEL 1

100 LEVEL		
VENDORS	152 Ramskeller Pub & Grub 175 CSU Bookstore 176 Bogel Place 2 178 Cam's Lobby Shop 197 Recycled Cycles	
EVENT SPACE	134 Meeting Room 140 Meeting Room 144 Meeting Room 152A Microbrevery Classroom	
AMENITIES	139 Laptop & Technology Checkout 150 Commons/Sunken Lounge 193 Compus Info 2	
OFFICES	118 Rocky Mountain Student Media Corporatio 120 Career Center 130 Career Center 130 Career Career 141 Student Organization 142 Riscurse Center 142 Fraternity & Sonority Life 195 Transfort	





# LORY STUDENT CENTER-LEVEL 2

	200 LEVEL		
VENDORS	203 222 244 246 252 271 279	Intermissione Sweet Sinsotions RAMtech First National Bank Food Court Canvas Credit Union CSU Bookstore	
w	20111H	LSC Theatre	
ENT SPAC	212 226 228	Meeting Room Meeting Room	
No.			
AMENITIES	200A 207 230 240	Curfman Gallery Diane Warren Kindness Lounga Study Room Campus Info and Bax Office	
ES	204	ASCSU Senate Chamber Associated Students of	
FICI	210	Colorado State University Student Leadenship, Involvement & Community Engagement (SLICE)	
0	223 225	Student Disability Center El Centro	
	232 234	Pride Resource Center Women and Gender	
	242	Advocacy Center Colorado State University Police Department	
1	274	Student Legal Services	
	275 276	RamCard Office LSC Business Services	
	281	Off-Compus Life	
	282	Adult Learner and Veteran Services	
	286	LSC Operations	

LEGEND

ALL-GENDER RESTROOM

CHANGING STATION

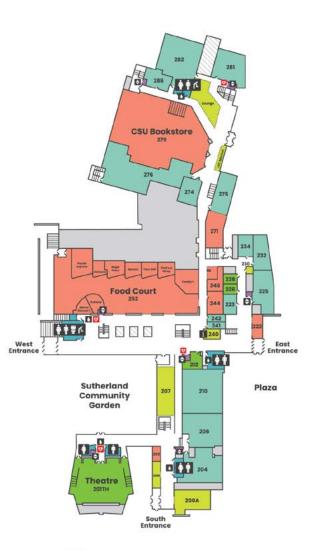
RESTROOM

K

LACTATION BOOM

i INFO DESK

WATER STATION





# LORY STUDENT CENTER-LEVEL 3

<b>300 LEVEL</b>		
VENDORS	3998 Aspen Grille	
EVENT SPACE	Meeting         300, 304, 306, 308, 308, 310, 31           Scotts         322, 324, 328, 330, 372, 37           Stotts         330, 322, 334, 336, 372, 37           Stotts         300, 392, 394, 396, 372, 37           Stotts         300, 392, 394, 396, 371, 37           300         crand Baliroom A-0           367         News No Summer (Never No Summer)           399         University Baliroom	
AMENITIES	316         Paul & Elsie Forsythe Legacy Lourge           320         Duhesa Gellery           325         Study Room           326         Study Room           336         Study Room           337         Lactation Room           368         Reflection Room           367         Reflection Room           3878         Lactation Room	
OFFICES	<ul> <li>303 Executive Director's Offic</li> <li>315 Event Planning Services</li> <li>327 Native American</li> <li>338 Asian/Pacific American</li> <li>338 Asian/Pacific American</li> <li>335 Biack/African American</li> <li>335 Biack/African American</li> </ul>	







## **NOTES**

FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS · 2024 WELS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY



## f 🞯 🚿 @ WELSYOUTHRALLY

#### FROM THE FROM THE MOUNTAINTOPS MERE IS YOUR GOD! ISAIAH 40:9



LEARN







#### WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD

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