

Germany, Austria, & Prague 2027

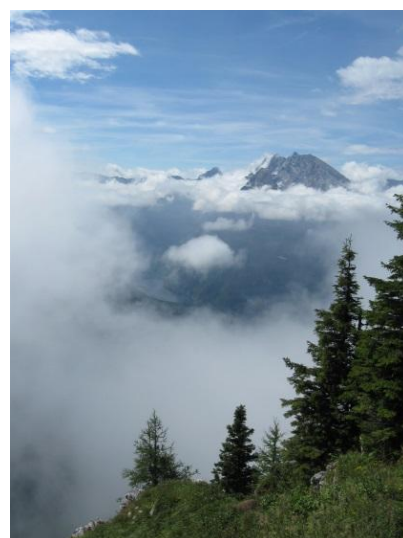
*Including Berchtesgaden (Eagles Nest), Salzburg, Erfurt, Eisenach,
Eisleben, Leipzig, Wittenberg, Berlin, & much more*

Tour host: The Rev. Aaron A. Koch

15 Days of Study, Adventure, Music, Worship, and Good Times



The Wartburg Castle, Eisenach



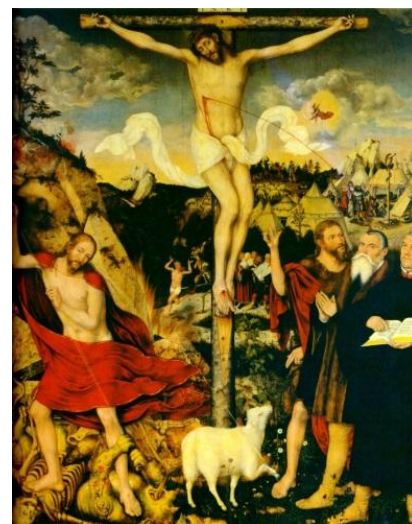
View from the Eagle's Nest
(Kehlsteinhaus)



Luther by Lucas Cranach



The Castle Church, Wittenberg



Lucas Cranach Altarpiece, Weimar

Tour Dates: June 14 - 28, 2027

\$3,590 plus airfare

Cost includes quality accommodations, entry fees, land transportation, 23 meals, and all tips for driver and guides

As we look ahead to the 510th anniversary of the Reformation in 2027, this is a great time to visit the sites where so much of Lutheran history took place! This tour is packed with all that you would want to see of the Luther sites, plus much more, including a concert at the Mirabell Palace in Salzburg, Austria; a Motet performed at the Church of Bach, St. Thomas in Leipzig; plus, World War II and Cold War historical sites like the Obersalzberg Documentation Center near Hitler's Eagle's Nest, the Terezin concentration camp, remnants of the Berlin Wall, and Checkpoint Charlie. In addition, we will spend two full days in the beautiful city of Prague in the Czech Republic. A highlight of the trip will be taking part in Divine Service both in Prague and in Berlin with fellow Lutherans.



You won't find a better deal for all that's included in this trip. Airfare is being listed separately so that tour participants can fly from the airport of their choice. This also affords the opportunity for participants to use airline miles or even extend their trip if they wish. *Pastor Koch will provide help in getting tickets for those flying out of Chicago O'Hare so that the group can have the same flight itinerary and travel together.*

Day 1, Monday, June 14, 2027: Depart the US

Group members depart for Munich, Germany.

Day 2, Tuesday, June 15, 2027: Munich

Group members arrive in Munich. On arrival, we meet our tour director and bus, who will be with us the entire trip until Berlin. Depending on arrival time, enjoy a brief tour of Bavaria's capital. Lunch break on your own in the city center of Munich. In the afternoon, head south on a scenic route along the Alps to Austria. Check in at your Hotel Untersberg in a suburb of Salzburg. Remainder of day at leisure. In the evening, meet for welcome dinner. (3 nights) D

Day 3, Wednesday, June 16, 2027: Salzburg

In the morning, we will set off on our guided city stroll through the centre - a pedestrian zone where we visit many historic sites related to Mozart. Salzburg, which is also known as the "Rome of the North," has many

magnificent monuments from both the Baroque and Renaissance periods. Designated as a World Cultural Heritage Site, Salzburg was ruled for centuries by Prince Archbishops. Highlights of our walk will include Mozart's birthplace, St. Peter's cemetery, Salzburg Cathedral, and the Fortress of Hohensalzburg. Afternoon at leisure. This evening we are in for a special treat - after early dinner, enjoy a special concert at the famous Mirabell Palace.



Day 4, Thurs, June 17, 2027: Berchtesgaden

This morning venture into the Bavarian Mountains for visits to Kehlsteinhaus, known as Hitler's Eagle's Nest, Berchtesgaden and the salt mines. Located at an elevation of over 6,000 feet, on a clear day the Eagle's Nest offers a magnificent view across the Bavarian Mountains and the Salzburg Alps. Free time for lunch and exploration. Travel to the salt mines, buried deep in the mountain under Berchtesgaden. Return back into Austria and Untersberg. BD

Day 5, Friday, June 18, 2027: Chesky Krumlov / Prague

Our journey to Prague takes us through southern Bohemia, a picturesque landscape of endless rolling hills dotted with historic cities and villages. En route we make a stop at the



UNESCO site of Chesky Krumlov, one of the best-preserved medieval cities in the world. On

arrival in Prague we check in to the Prague NH Hotel, our home for the next three nights. BD

Day 6, Saturday, June 19, 2027: Prague

This historic city of golden stone and architectural grace offers a mix of Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo treasures. Today we will have our first views of the city and its treasures and a discussion of Prague's history. We explore the castle of Prague, which dates back to the 8th century, when Slavonic tribes built the first fortifications here. Then stroll through the Old Town to view its churches and palaces, many of them used today for cultural events, ministerial offices, embassies and art galleries. Enjoy an evening at the Cicovice Court restaurant, a former farmhouse offering folk music and dancing. BD

Day 7, Sunday, June 20, 2027: Prague

We will join the LCMS congregation for Divine service this morning. Afterwards, crossing the historic Charles Bridge, we enter the Jewish Quarter, where we visit the Jewish Museum, an impressive memorial to one of the Czech Republic's



defining cultures, and the famous Prague cemetery, home to more than 40,000 graves. Narrow lanes and generous squares are characteristic of the Old Town, where we meander through Wenceslav Square, passing by the Estate Theater, site of the first performance of Mozart's Don Giovanni. The afternoon and evening offers free time to explore Prague further. B

Day 8, Monday, June 21, 2027: Terezin/ Erfurt

Leave Prague this morning for a visit and private guided tour of the former concentration camp and Jewish Ghetto Terezin. Afterwards, leave the Czech Republic crossing into Germany over the Ore Mountains. Picture stop enroute. Continue to Erfurt. Hotel check in and dinner. BD

Day 9, Tuesday, June 22, 2027: Erfurt

We meet our local guide who shows us the beautiful city of Erfurt where Luther first studied law and later became a monk. Our guide will take us on a tour of Erfurt that will include the Augustinian monastery, the university



Luther attended, and St. Mary's Cathedral (from outside), where Luther was ordained. The afternoon and evening offers free time. B

Day 10, Wednesday, June 23, 2027: Eisenach and Wartburg

We will visit Eisenach and the Wartburg today. This is the place where Luther was held in friendly captivity after having been declared an outlaw, and where Luther translated the New Testament into German. The Wartburg was also the home of Elizabeth of Thuringia who renounced her royal privileges to spend a life serving the poor. Afterwards we will drive into the center of Eisenach and visit the birthplace of Johann Sebastian Bach, which is now a museum. Some time to explore Eisenach on own before we head back to Erfurt. Dinner tonight is planned at a local restaurant with typical Thuringian food. BD

Day 11, Thursday, June 24, 2027: Eisleben and Graefenhainichen

We will begin our morning with a city tour of Eisleben, the town where Luther was born and where he died. We will use the visit to Luther's baptismal church to remember our own baptisms with a short meditation. On our way to Wittenberg, we will stop at the little town of Graefenhainichen and visit the little chapel which holds a museum dedicated to Paul Gerhardt. Continue to Wittenberg and check in at the Old Latin School and Colleg Wittenberg for three nights. BD

Day 12, Friday, June 25, 2027: Wittenberg

We will start our day in Wittenberg with a tour of the annex of the Luther House, the former monastery and a wedding gift to Luther from the prince. The Luther Haus has one of the world's largest Reformation archives. Unfortunately, it is closed due to renovations, but the most important pieces



are on display in the neighboring Augusteum. We will also visit the Melanchthon House, home of Philipp Melanchthon, Luther's companion and colleague throughout the Reformation. After time for lunch we will continue and take tours of both Wittenberg churches: The Castle Church (the *95 Theses church*) and the Town Church where Luther preached and which has the Reformation Altar, painted by Lucas Cranach, the Elder. Free evening tonight. B

Day 13, Saturday, June 26, 2027: Torgau and Leipzig

Today we travel to nearby Torgau. Torgau and Wittenberg both had a royal residence of the Saxon Prince Elector. You will visit the Palace (from the outside) and the Palace Chapel (the first church built as a Protestant church), and the church where Katharina von Bora, Luther's wife is buried. Katharina died in Torgau after having an accident on her travels to leave Wittenberg when it was threatened by plague). We continue to Leipzig and will attend the motet at St. Thomas, the church where Bach served as cantor for more than 25 years. Afterwards, some time to explore Leipzig on a self-guided tour. Do not miss the second famous Leipzig church: St. Nicholas Church where the weekly peace prayers grew into the "Peaceful Revolution". Return to Wittenberg for dinner. BD



Day 14, Sunday, June 27, 2027: Berlin

We leave Wittenberg and head north to Berlin. We will join the congregation at Dreifaltigkeitskirche for Sunday worship. Afterwards fellowship and discussions with

the pastor and members of the congregation. In the afternoon, private guided city tour which includes the neo-Baroque Berlin Cathedral, the bomb-damaged Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie, the government district and a stretch of the former Berlin Wall. Hotel check in for one night. In the evening, gather for closing dinner. BD

Day 15, Monday, June 28, 2027: Good-bye

We say goodbye, transfer to Berlin airport for your homebound flights. B



Pastor Koch leading Vespers at the Stadtkirche in Wittenberg

About the Host/Tour Leader

Pastor Koch has served as an ordained minister of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for 37 years and is serving his 32nd year at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Greenfield, Wisconsin. He is an adjunct instructor for Concordia University Wisconsin and served many years as the sermons editor for *Gottesdienst*, the journal of Lutheran Liturgy. Several of his sermons and sermon studies have appeared in *Concordia Pulpit Resources*. He has also written devotions for CPH's *Portals of Prayer*. Pastor Koch has led several tours of Europe and the Holy Land and is eager to share the joys of this experience with you.

For further information, please contact:

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Greenfield, Wisconsin 53221
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Email: pastor.koch@gmail.com

Cost*

\$3,590 plus airfare

[Double occupancy, based on a minimum of 20 tour participants]

*Single occupancy supplement, \$940

Please note: Participants should be able to climb stairs without assistance and to walk at a modest pace for a 1-2 miles at a time.

Hotels confirmed:

Salzburg (3 nights)	Hotel Untersberg
Prague (3 nights)	nH City Prague Hotel
Erfurt (3 nights)	NYX Hotel
Wittenberg (3 nights)	Old Latin School and Colleg Wittenberg
Berlin (1 night)	Maritim proArte Hotel



Included Features

- ✓ Thoroughly experienced multilingual tour director from Munich to Berlin Airport.
- ✓ Transportation in a 4 star European-styled motorcoach with climate control, reclining seats and refrigerator.
- ✓ Hotel accommodation, double occupancy
- ✓ Taxes, parking, and road fees
- ✓ Guided city tours in Munich, Salzburg, Prague, Terezin, Erfurt, Eisleben, Wittenberg, Torgau and Berlin.
- ✓ Entrance fees to Mozart Museum in Salzburg.
- ✓ Cable car Hohensalzburg.
- ✓ Concert at Mirabell Palace.
- ✓ Visit to Obersalzburg Documentation center, Kehlsteinhaus and Salt mines.
- ✓ Entrance fee to Prague Castle Hradshin.
- ✓ Private guided tour of Terezin Memorial site.
- ✓ Entrance fee to Augustinian Monastery in Erfurt.
- ✓ Private guided tour of the Wartburg Castle.
- ✓ Entrance fee to the Bachhaus including mini-concert in Eisenach.
- ✓ Entrance fee to Luther's Birth and Death house, St. Peter and Paul's Church and St. Andrew's Church in Eisleben.
- ✓ Entrance fee to Paul Gerhardt Chapel in Graefenhainichen.
- ✓ Entrance fee to Schlosskirche, Stadtkirche, Augusteum, and Melanchthon museum in Wittenberg.
- ✓ Entrance fee to St. Mary's and Hartenfeld Chapel in Torgau.
- ✓ Admission to the St. Thomas Motette in Leipzig.
- ✓ Sightseeing and excursions as cited in the program

- ✓ 23 meals: 13 buffet breakfasts and 10 dinners (excluding beverages)
- ✓ All necessary tips such as bellman, maid, doormen, dining room tips for meals that are specified in the itinerary and the customary gratuity to escorts, drivers and step-on guides are included.

Not Included

- Airfare [Arrive, Munich (MUC); Depart, Berlin (BER)] **Pastor Koch will be happy to assist you in the process of how and when to get your tickets.**
- Any passport, visa, or health fees (If you don't have a passport, be sure to obtain it at least 6-9 months before the trip)
- Phone calls
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Beverages and drinks at meals (except breakfast)
- Tips for beverages and drinks
- Bar bills
- Personal expenses
- Laundry or items of a personal nature
- Customs
- Travel/Trip Insurance

Travel/Trip Insurance

Participants are not required but are strongly encouraged to purchase trip insurance to cover unexpected health needs, trip cancellation or delay, and loss of baggage. We recommend the Trip Insurance Store (TripInsuranceStore.com), that can easily compare multiple plans for you (based on your own needs and desires) and offer a plan at the same cost as the individual companies. Visit them online or call toll free at 1-888-407-3854. Deanna, Becky, Kim, or Steve will be glad to walk you through the process.

Tour Terms and Conditions

Rates are applicable for 2027. Due to currency fluctuations, Christian Tours Europe (CTE) reserves the right to adjust prices after renegotiation with the booking party (the tour host). All rates are net without commission and in U.S. Currency.

LAND TRANSPORTATION: As specified in the respective tour itinerary. Where motor coaches are specified, these are modern, large-windowed, air-conditioned/heated vehicles designed especially for sightseeing.

HOTELS: All four-star comparable hotels, as specified in brochure. The tour price is based on shared accommodation in twin-bedded room with private shower or bath. A limited number of single rooms are available at an additional supplement stated in brochure. Single rooms, when available, are often smaller than doubles. Tour participants without a roommate will have to pay the single rate.

MEALS: As per tour brochure.

SIGHTSEEING: As specified in the itinerary, including the services of a thoroughly experienced, multilingual tour director from the Munich Airport to Berlin. (Right is reserved to vary the sequence of sightseeing programs, or to make substitutions if necessitated by circumstances beyond our control.)

LUGGAGE: Seasoned travelers have found it convenient to use one piece of baggage only, with wheels attached. Remember that, if you pack it, you carry it! Free baggage handling (on land portion of tour) is provided for one piece of luggage per participant. Additional pieces may incur additional airline charges, and an additional \$30 is charged on the land portion of the tour for each extra piece of luggage.

TIPS AND LOCAL TAXES are included, except for drinks and beverages at lunch and dinner and as noted in the tour brochure.

INCLUDED IN PRICE OF PROGRAM: Ground transportation and accommodations in Germany, Austria, and Czechia (as detailed in brochure); transfers with group to and from overseas airports and hotels; shared double room in four-star comparable hotels; 23 meals; English-speaking guides; transportation and entrance fees to sites to be visited; parking & road fees.

NOT INCLUDED: Transfer to/from U.S. airport; airfare, applicable air taxes, U.S. and international departure taxes, & security surcharges, visa, & health fees; telephone calls; valet/laundry service; bar bills; other items of a strictly personal nature; baggage or other travel/trip insurance (which is highly recommended); and any drinks or beverages [Please note that the custom abroad is to include coffee or tea with breakfast only; it is an extra charge when ordered with other meals, as are mineral waters, wines, or liquor.]; tips for drinks or beverages; meals other than those detailed in the tour brochure; personal expenses within the U.S.A. or Canada; and customs taxes. Also, any exception noted on the face of the booking registration form and/or in the tour brochure as indicated in "not included" portion of brochure.

PASSPORTS: All tour members must have a valid passport. All persons traveling by air are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter or re-enter the United States. The passport should be valid a minimum of six months after the end of the tour. To apply for passports you can contact your local Passport Office, USPS, or the Clerk of the District or County Court.

DOCUMENTATION: U.S. citizens require a valid passport for international travel. Regulations of the U.S. Customs Service require airlines to provide access to information contained in passenger reservations.

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT INFORMATION: Reservations may be secured upon payment of a deposit in the amount per person, as specified in the tour brochure. We recommend that this be done far in advance of the reservation deadline in order to secure passports and other documents.

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT: As of April 14, complete payment is due immediately with one's registration form. Late payments may be charged late fees. Extraordinary mail charges required by late booking, changes, or late payments must be borne by the passenger.

CANCELLATIONS: The tour may be cancelled for a \$145 administrative fee up to three months prior to departure (3/14/2027). A 33% fee is required for cancellation made between 3 and 2 months prior to departure (3/15/27 – 4/14/27). A 67% fee is required for cancellation made between 2 and 1 months prior to departure (4/15/27 – 5/14/27). No refund can be made for a cancellation made less than one month prior to departure or a no-show. Group rates are subject to change if size of group varies due to cancellation. Travel / Trip Insurance, which includes cancellation coverage, is highly recommended.

AIRLINE / ITINERARY ARRANGEMENTS: Arrangements for air travel are the responsibility of the tour participant. Deviations from the departure date or return date are at the discretion of the individual participant. If a participant desires to extend her/his trip, this land-only package makes it easy to do so.

INSURANCE: Neither the tour host nor Christian Tours Europe (CTE) is responsible or liable for loss, damage, theft of luggage or personal belongings, personal injury, accidents, or illness. For your protection we strongly suggest that you purchase adequate insurance to cover these eventualities and the cost of the tour itself. We strongly recommend that you be insured against the eventuality of cancellation.

HEALTH REGULATIONS: Smallpox vaccinations are no longer required to enter countries visited in the brochure, or to re-enter the U.S.

PRICES quoted herein are expected to be in effect at the time of departure but are subject to change prior to departure (due to fluctuations in monetary exchange rates).

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY: The tour host and Christian Tours Europe (CTE) agree to provide the itinerary described in this brochure, and this represents the entire agreement between the passenger and the tour host and the land tour operator. No changes or deviations are effective unless approved in writing and signed by an authorized officer of the land tour operator. Except as stated herein, no person is authorized to cancel, modify, or vary the tour arrangements or to make any representation of warranty concerning the tour. All prices, itineraries, and schedules are subject to regulations and changes thereof by acts of Government, International Agreement, and Airline tariff adjustments, rules, and regulations. In the event of rescheduling of the tour due to unforeseen circumstances, the cancellation and refund clause will apply. The tour host reserves the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in the sole judgment of the tour host, incapable of group travel.

SEQUENCE OF TOUR: During certain periods of conventions, congresses, sports events, and other unforeseen events and circumstances, the tour operator and/or tour host may have to make last-minute changes (sometimes even after arrival) in the sequence of the tour. All services to which participants are entitled will be rendered. Any person reserving a Christian Tours Europe (CTE) tour accepts the condition that CTE reserves the exclusive right to change tour itineraries, hotels, and other tour components whenever it is deemed necessary, although tours are planned and hotels are booked with all possible care. Published times in our itineraries are as accurate as possible and subject to change due to traffic, weather, mechanical and any other conditions that prevent CTE from operating under normal conditions. CTE cannot accept liability in the case of any passenger being denied boarding by any airline carrier due to carrier's over-booking of a flight, nor does it accept liability in the case of a cancelled or delayed flight. It shall be the passenger's responsibility solely to provide the means to join a missed tour that is already in progress. In the event that any dispute arises in which any party has a right to assert a claim, the exclusive jurisdiction for that claim shall be in a court of competent jurisdiction located in Braunschweig, Germany. The tour is operated exclusively under German law.

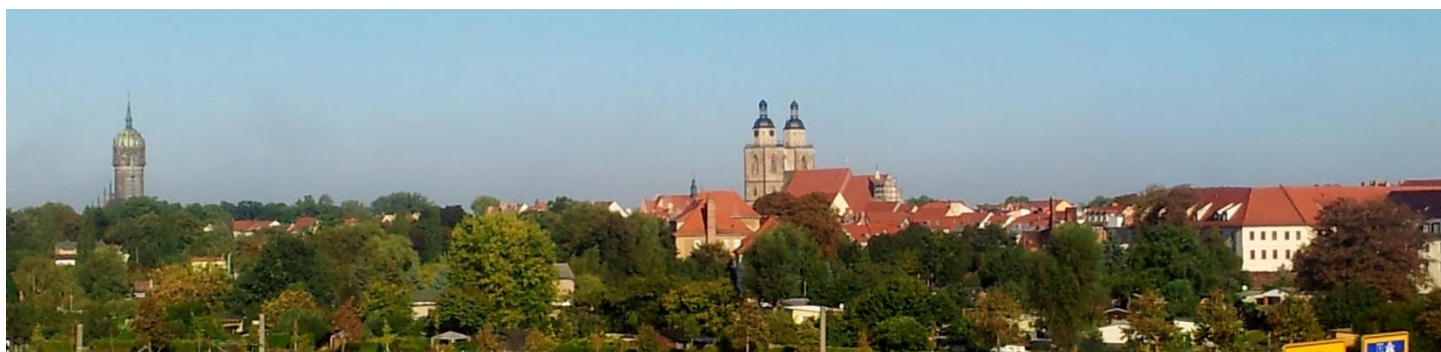
Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime chance to tour Germany, Austria, and Prague, and to enjoy the study of Lutheran history in the place where it all began! Space is being limited to 34 tour participants. Reserve your place now!



Tour Guide Christian Eggert and Tour Host Aaron Koch



Optional Slide Down into the Salt Mines



Panoramic View of Wittenberg, Germany