

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

June 25, 2017

The Presentation of the Augsburg Confession
3rd Sunday after Pentecost



REFORMATION
2017 It's *Still* All About
Jesus

*Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God.
Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.*

Hebrews 13:7

DIVINE SERVICE Setting Four

Hymn of Invocation # 658

Confession & Absolution p. 203

Introit

Vindicate me, O Lord,

**for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.**

Prove me, O Lord, and try me;

test my heart and my mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes,

and I walk in your faithfulness.

I do not sit with men of falsehood,

nor do I consort with hypocrites.

I hate the assembly of evil doers,

and I will not sit with the wicked.

I wash my hands in innocence

and go around your altar, O Lord,

proclaiming thanksgiving aloud,

and telling all your wondrous deeds.

O Lord, I love the habitation of your house

and the place where your glory dwells.

Do not sweep my soul away with sinners,

nor my life with blood thirsty men,

in whose hands are evil devices,

and whose right hands are full of bribes.

But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity;

redeem me, and be gracious to me.

My foot stands on level ground;

in the great assembly I will bless the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Vindicate me, O Lord,

for I have walked in my integrity,

and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

Kyrie p. 204

Gloria in Excelsis p. 204

Salutation & Collect p. 205

Lord God, heavenly Father, You preserved the teaching of the apostolic Church through the confession of the true faith at Augsburg. Continue to cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your church that we, being instructed by

the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of Your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament: Nehemiah 8:1-12 (ESV)

All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel.

So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiyah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved." And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11b-16 (ESV)

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence

of many witnesses. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

Alleluia and Verse p. 205

Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 10:26-33 (ESV)

(Jesus says) "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before My Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father who is in heaven."

Nicene Creed p. 206

Hymn of the Day # 555 (st. 1, 6-10)

Sermon: Confessing Christ

Prayer of the Church

Let us pray to the Lord.

We confess You as our saving Lord!

Offering

Service of the Sacrament p. 208ff.

Distribution Hymns # 618, 570

Nunc Dimittis p. 211

Post-Communion Collect p. 212

Benediction p. 212

Closing Hymn # 655

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion in which we joyfully receive Christ's Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. As we celebrate the Sacrament, we also give public witness that we are in complete agreement with the denomination's doctrinal teachings at whose altar we commune. Therefore, we ask that only communicant members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod commune with us. All guests are asked to talk to Rev. Heller before coming to the altar to receive the Sacrament.

Welcome to worship as today we celebrate the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession. The Augsburg Confession is the chief confession of the Lutheran Church. It is the first distinctively Lutheran confession written and adopted as a witness against the abuses that had crept into the teaching and practice of the church before the Reformation, and against the errors of the radical reformers. The Confession was presented to Emperor Charles V on June 25, 1530 in Augsburg, Germany, where the emperor had convened a general assembly of representatives of church and state to consider the Lutheran movement. Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon.

Watering Flowers: A sign-up sheet is on the table in the social hall to volunteer to water the flowers. Please note that when you sign up for a date, it is for the entire week following that Sunday. Thank you!

The June Human Care Project is collecting kids snacks for those long summer afternoons. All items will be given to Women's Action & Resource Center. Please leave items in the pantry unit in the entryway.

The LYF sold all the M&M's for the FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN fundraiser. The mobile pack will be in Beulah on August 26, 2017. The congregation is asked to return the tubes filled with loose change by August 1st.

Elsie Buchmann would like to thank all who helped her last Sunday during her medical event.

In our thoughts and prayers,

- † Our sick & recovering: Anna Pischel, Myra Rada, (mother of Tina Heller), Lorraine Sturn (sister of Elsie Buchmann), Karen Walz, & Marvin Weigum;
- † For rain, that we may reap a bountiful harvest.

Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Attendance: 84 Offerings: \$2,782.50

“Present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.” Everything we have—even our own existence, our very selves—is a gift from God to be used for His purposes. God has called you to be His own and has given you tasks to perform in home, church, and society. How will you serve Him today?

† This Week at Concordia †

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| Sunday | 8:30 am | Divine Service |
| | 10:30 am | <i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i> |
| Tuesday | 1:00 pm | Bible Class @ Knife River Care Center |
| Thursday | 9:00 am | Deadline for July calendar information |
| Sunday | 8:30 am | Worship Service |