

Last Sunday in the Church Year

November 25, 2007



Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223

www.wrtc.com/lcms

DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Four

Confession & Absolution

p. 203

Entrance Hymn

525

Kyrie

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Gloria in Excelsis

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Salutation & Collect

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Lord Jesus Christ, You reign among us by the preaching of Your cross. Forgive Your people their offenses that we, being governed by Your bountiful goodness, may enter at last into Your eternal paradise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 3:13-18 (ESV)

[13] "Your words have been hard against me, says the Lord. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?'

[14] You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the Lord of hosts?'

[15] And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.' "

[16] Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed his name.

[17] "They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him.

[18] Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

Gradual

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Blessed are those whose strength is in you,

in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:13-20 (ESV)

[13] He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

[14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

[15] He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

[16] For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

[17] And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

[18] And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

[19] For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

[20] and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Alleluia and Verse

p. 205

Holy Gospel

St. Luke 23:27-43 (ESV)

[27] And there followed Him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for Him.

[28] But turning to them Jesus said, *"Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."*

[29] *For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!'*

[30] *Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.'*

[31] *For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"*

[32] Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Him.

[33] And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left.

[34] And Jesus said, "*Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.*" And they cast lots to divide his garments.

[35] And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God, His Chosen One!"

[36] The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine [37] and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!"

[38] There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the King of the Jews."

[39] One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

[40] But the other rebuked Him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since You are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

[41] And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."

[42] And he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

[43] And He said to him, "*Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.*"

Apostles' Creed p. 207

Hymn of the Day # 532

Sermon "If...!"

Prayer of the Church

P: O Jesus Christ, do not delay,

C: **But hasten our salvation.**

Offering

Service of the Sacrament p. 208ff.

Distribution Hymns # 549, 673

Nunc Dimittis p. 211

Post-Communion Collect p. 212

Benediction p. 212

Closing Hymn # 672

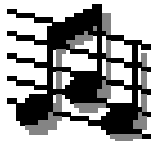
Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion in which we joyfully receive Christ's Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. As we celebrate the Sacrament, we also give public witness that we are in complete agreement with the denomination's doctrinal teachings at whose 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.

In our thoughts and prayers,



+ Our sick and recovering: Amanda Bauer, Berniece Homuth, Shirley Jones (the daughter of Edna Wolf), Craig Schaan, Brenda Weigum, & Alex Woroniecki.

Welcome to worship this morning. On this last Sunday of the Church Year, we are reminded that Christ is our King. He inaugurated His kingdom through His passion and death. He now rules and protects His Church and governs over all the world, especially for the benefit of His Church. On the last day, He will lead His Church to the glory of heaven. We rejoice in the words of St. Paul, "The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom" (2 Tim. 4:19). Visitors please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!



Special Music: "Give Thanks" will be sung following the Gradual and the chimes will ring "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" during the gathering of our morning offerings.

Today in Sunday School, the children learn that "the law was given through Moses" but "grace and truth came through Jesus Christ" (John 1:17). Talk about God's laws and how they guide us and show us our sin when we cannot keep them. Ask your children, "Who kept the Law perfectly for us?" Though we sin much, daily we have God's forgiveness because of Christ, His Son. As a family, review the Ten Commandments.

The Psalms of Advent: Please join us for Bible class this morning as we begin a study of the Psalms of Advent. We will study how the saints of old used the Psalms, the "hymnal" of the Old Testament, to confess their longing and hope for their deliverance in the coming Messiah.

Greeters are needed for the month of December. A sign-up sheet is hanging on the bulletin board in the social hall.



Church Decorating: The LYF will be decorating the church for Christmas next Sunday, December 2nd, following Sunday School. Anyone who would like to help decorate is welcome to join.

All women of the congregation are invited to St. Peter Lutheran Church, Hannover, for their Annual Christmas Luncheon on Wednesday, December 5th at 12:00 noon (MT). Please call Vicky Yeager, 873-5647, by Friday, November 30th if you plan to attend.



Handbell & Chime Christmas Concert is Sunday, December 9th, 7:00 p.m. Coffee and refreshments will follow.

The LYF is planning a Progressive Supper & Caroling for Sunday, December 16th. Families are needed to host different courses of the meal. Please talk to Steve or Nona Blaisdell, 873-5426, if you would like to take part in this event. The event is planned between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

There is an excellent selection of Christmas cards and napkins on display in the social hall. Please make checks payable to Concordia LWML Gift Account.



LYF Gift Basket Silent Auction: The gift baskets are on display on the table in the social hall. This is a fundraiser for our LYF and will make wonderful Christmas gifts. Bidding has begun. If you have any questions, please talk to Steve or Nona Blaisdell, 873-5426.

AMEN: Registration for the 2008 Higher Things gathering is open! "AMEN" is the theme of the gathering. Check out www.amen2008.org for more information.



Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 141 Offering: \$2,136.00

The Epistle reading for the last Sunday in the Church Year reminds us that God in Christ rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into His kingdom of light so we might use all of life and life's resources in service to Him and our neighbor.

+ This Week at Concordia +

Today	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	10:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Bible Class
Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Bible Class
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Deadline for December newsletter
	6:00 p.m.	Chime Practice
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday School
	7:30 p.m.	Handbell Practice
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	10:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Bible Class

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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Thank you for filling out a Record of Friendship Card this morning.

We record both worship and Communion attendance.

Place completed card in collection plate or hand to an usher.