

# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2008



## 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](http://www.wrtc.com/lcms)*

## DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Three

### Hymn of Invocation

# 420

### Confession & Absolution

p. 184

### Introit

Precious in the sight of the Lord

**is the death of his saints.**

I love the Lord, because he has heard

**my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

Because he inclined his ear to me,

**therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

**I suffered distress and anguish**

Then I called on the name of the Lord;

**"O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!"**

For you have delivered my soul from death,

**my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.**

**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.**

Precious in the sight of the Lord

**is the death of his saints.**

### Kyrie

p. 186

*Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Lent*

### Salutation & Collect

p. 189

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 (ESV)

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these

bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

### **Gradual**

O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,  
**the founder and perfecter of our faith,**  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross,  
despising the shame,  
**and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

### **Epistle Reading: Romans 8:1-11 (ESV)**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh

set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

*“Alleluia” is omitted during Lent*

**Holy Gospel:** St. John 11:17-27, 38-53

Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You." Jesus said to her, *"Your brother will rise again."* Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, *"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"* She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, *"Take away the stone."* Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, *"Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"* So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, *"Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. I knew that You always hear Me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that You sent Me."* When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, *"Lazarus, come out."*

The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, *"Unbind him, and let him go."*

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what He did, believed in Him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let Him go on like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put Him to death.

|                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Nicene Creed</b>                | p. 191                         |
| <b>Hymn of the Day</b>             | # 741 (st. 1-4)                |
| <b>Sermon</b>                      | <i>"Can These Bones Live?"</i> |
| <b>Offertory</b>                   | p. 192                         |
| <b>Offering</b>                    |                                |
| <b>Prayer of the Church</b>        |                                |
| <b>Service of the Sacrament</b>    | p. 194                         |
| <b>Distribution Hymns</b>          | # 741 (st. 5-8), 619           |
| <b>Nunc Dimittis</b>               | p. 199                         |
| <b>Thanksgiving</b>                | p. 200                         |
| <b>Benedicamus and Benediction</b> | p. 201                         |
| <b>Closing Hymn</b>                | # 685                          |

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: Jim Aanderud, Ruth Helm, Ivan Herrmann, Bev Janke, Harold Link, Marlin Rueb, Dan Weidner, & Alex Woroniecki;

+ Matt, Angie & Family, as they begin their mission work in Central Asia.

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**Welcome to worship** in the season of Lent, the time of following Jesus to the cross. Lent teaches us that it was our sin which caused Jesus to suffer and die. As we confess our sin, our great comfort comes from the promise of God, “If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

**Today in Sunday School**, the children learn about Jesus raising Lazarus. In resurrecting Lazarus (John 11:1-45), Jesus demonstrated that He can indeed raise all who believe in Him for salvation. True life is eternal life with Jesus. Talk with your children about how in this life we see and experience the effects of sin—sickness, injury, and death. Assure them that Jesus, our savior from sin and death, has guaranteed that in heaven our lives will be free of sin and its effects eternally. As a family, confess the second article of the Apostles’ Creed together.

**Bible Class:** Please join us for Bible Class this morning as we look at “The Lamb of God Who Suffered Scorn”.

**Today we celebrate the Girl Scouts** of our congregation for their continued Girl Scout Promise to “serve God” and for the example of service they exemplify. In honor of 96 years of Girl Scouting and a tradition of service, Girl Scouts designate the week of March 9<sup>th</sup> as “*Make the World A Better Place Week*”.



The following girls and their families are part of Girl Scouts:

Kylie Scherer and Katlyn Blaisdell.

**The Hazen Hospital Auxiliary** annual turkey dinner is today, 11:00 – 1:00 PM at the Hazen City Hall. Free will offering will be accepted. Supplemental funds provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Chapter 31353.

**Our Midweek Lenten services** continue this Wednesday at 5:30 PM. As we continue looking at “Lamb of God, Pure and Holy,” the focus of our worship is “The Lamb of God Who Suffered Scorn,” based upon Psalm 22:1-8. Soup and sandwiches will be served by the Council and Elders following worship.

**“Understanding Grief,”** an eight-session support group sponsored by Sakakawea Medical Center Hospice will begin meeting Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:00 PM at the Hospice Office in Hazen. Please call 748-7380 for more information or to pre-register.

**Easter Lilies** for the altar forms are available on the table in the social hall.



The cost of each flower is \$12.50. To order, fill out the form, make checks payable to Bloom-n-House and return to Vicky Yeager by Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. You may also purchase your own lily and have it placed at the altar by filling out a form with a notation that you are bringing the plant yourself. Please have all lilies to the Church on Good Friday.



**All youth** are invited to dye Easter eggs at the Church on Maundy Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 PM. If anyone wishes to donate eggs, please put them in the refrigerator at Church.

**The LYF** will be serving breakfast on Easter Sunday from 7:30 – 8:30 AM.



All youth are asked to bring either egg bake or muffins. If you plan to be gone, please have your food items at the Church before Easter Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the social hall. All youth are asked to help serve and clean up. For more information, call Carla Renner at 948-2534.

**Daily Bible reading for the Lenten season** from the “*Lutheran Service Book*” and Daily Lenten Devotions provided by Lutheran Hour Ministries can be found on Concordia’s website at [www.wrtc.com/lcms](http://www.wrtc.com/lcms).



## Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 161    Offering: \$3,085.25

Most people who have been released from prison or any other kind of bondage come out with the desire to live the rest of their lives to the full. Jesus has rescued us from the horrible bondage of sin, death and the devil so that we may no longer live for ourselves but rather for Him who died for us and rose again. That's at the heart of Christian stewardship.

### + This Week at Concordia +

|           |                                  |                                    |
|-----------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Today     | 9:00 AM                          | Divine Service                     |
|           | 10:15 AM                         | Sunday School/Bible Class          |
| Tuesday   | 1:30 PM                          | Naomi Guild                        |
| Wednesday | <b><i>Please note times!</i></b> |                                    |
|           | 4:00 PM                          | Wednesday School                   |
|           | 4:45 PM                          | Chime Practice                     |
|           | 5:30 PM                          | Worship                            |
|           | 6:15 PM                          | Soup/Sandwiches – Council & Elders |
|           | 7:00 PM                          | Bell Practice                      |
| Sunday    | Palm Sunday                      |                                    |
|           | 9:00 AM                          | Divine Service                     |
|           | 10:15 AM                         | Sunday School/Bible Class          |



### Church Office Hours

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

[revheller@westriv.com](mailto:revheller@westriv.com)

[concordiasecretary@westriv.com](mailto:concordiasecretary@westriv.com)

*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.*