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# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

March 20, 2011



*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him should not perish  
but have eternal life.*

*John 3:16*

**DIVINE SERVICE**                      Setting Three

**Hymn of Invocation**                      # 571

**Confession & Absolution**              p. 184

**Introit**

He remembers his covenant forever,

**the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

Seek the Lord and his strength;

**seek his presence continually!**

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

**his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,**

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

**children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

He is the Lord our God;

**his judgments are in all the earth.**

He remembers his covenant forever,

**the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

**Gloria Patri**                                      p. 186

**Kyrie**    p. 186

**Gloria in Excelsis** *is omitted during Lent*

**Salutation & Collect**                      p. 189

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the 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:** Genesis 12:1-9 (ESV)

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

**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 4:1-8, 13-17 (ESV)

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins

it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**“Alleluia” is omitted during Lent**

**Holy Gospel: St. John 3:1-17 (ESV)**

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with Him." Jesus answered him, *"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."* Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, *"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."*

Nicodemus said to Him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, *"Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except Him who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life."*

*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.*

*For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him."*

<b>Nicene Creed</b>	p. 191
<b>Hymn of the Day</b>	# 542
<b>Sermon</b>	Born Again
<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>	# 596, 623
<b>Nunc Dimittis</b>	p. 199
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	p. 200
<b>Benedicamus and Benediction</b>	p. 201
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	# 918

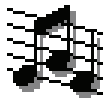
Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion in which we joyfully receive Christ's Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. As we celebrate the Sacrament, we also give public witness that we are in complete agreement with the denomination's doctrinal teachings at whose 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: Carolyn Johnson (Julie Dschaak's mother), Art & Laverne Mueller (Leeta Aanderud's parents), & Carolyn Riegel;

† The people of Japan & surrounding countries, as they recover.

**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, “ Whenever 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!



**Special Music:** The Bell Choir will ring “Reflections on Beach Spring” during the offering.

**Today in Sunday School,** the children learn about Jesus teaching the Pharisee Nicodemus under the cover of night. Since the fall into sin, all are born spiritually blind, sinful, and unclean. We are like Nicodemus and cannot see our sin or understand who Jesus truly is for us. As children of God, born of water and the Spirit, we can see our sinfulness and the salvation that is ours in Jesus Christ. Talk to your children about their Baptism and discuss what Baptism does for us.

**Please join us** for Bible Class as we look at “The Miraculous Earthquake,” the focus of our worship Wednesday evening.

**Our midweek Lenten services** continue this Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. This week our worship focuses on The Miraculous Earthquake, Matthew 27:51b. Soup & sandwiches will be served at 5:30 p.m. Chime practice will be at 5:00 p.m. and Handbell choir will be at 7:15 p.m.

**Council Members,** please remember our meeting this Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>, following worship.

**Large print hymnals** are available for use. Please talk to an usher.

**YMCA Lock-in:** Students in grades 6-12 are invited to the YMCA Lock-in hosted by the Bismarck-Mandan LCMS Youth Council, March 25-26th at the Missouri Valley Family YMCA, Bismarck. Registration begins at 9:30 p.m. on March 25th and will end with a light breakfast on the 26th. The featured speaker is Micah Parker (aka the Trust Guy). He is a highly rated national speaker who will leave the students with a message they will not soon



forget. Learn more about him at [www.trustguyministries.com](http://www.trustguyministries.com). Registration fee is \$20.00 which will be paid by the LYF. You are invited to bring friends. We need to decide if we have enough students interested in attending so driving arrangements can be made. For more information, contact Steve & Nona Blaisdell, 873-5426.



## **Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance**

Worship: 110    Offerings: \$3,191.25

Abraham was a righteous steward, not because he did everything right, but because he believed God's promises and was declared righteous. In Christ we believers are also declared righteous in the sight of God and by the renewing power of the Holy Spirit are equipped to use all of life and life's resources (including time, abilities and money) in God-pleasing and people-blessing ways.

† This Week at Concordia †

Today	8:30 am	Divine Service
	9:30 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
Monday	7:00 pm	Sarah Guild
Tuesday	2:00 pm	Bible Class
Wednesday	12:30 pm	Pastor @ Senior Suites, Hazen
	4:00 pm	Catechism
	5:00 pm	Chime Practice
	5:30 pm	Soup & Sandwiches - LYF/Elders
	6:30 pm	Lenten Service
	7:15 pm	Bell Practice
	7:15 pm	Council Meeting
Thursday	7:00 pm	<i>Lenten Service @ Glen Ullin</i>
Friday - Saturday	LYF Lock-in @ Bismarck YMCA	
Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service
	9:30 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>

**Church Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday 8:30 AM—12:30 PM  
Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223  
revheller@westriv.com  
concordiasecretary@westriv.com  
Website: www.concordiabeulah.org

*Please use a pew card to record your Church and/or  
Communion attendance this morning.*

*Thank you*