

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

November 20, 2016

Last Sunday of the Church Year



*"Truly, I say to you,
today you will be with Me in Paradise."*

Luke 23:43

Divine Service Setting One

Hymn of Invocation # 532

Confession & Absolution p. 151

Introit

Let all the earth fear the Lord;

**let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe
of him!**

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,

who stand by night in the house of the Lord!

Lift up your hands to the holy place

and bless the Lord!

May the Lord bless you from Zion,

he who made heaven and earth!

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.**

Let all the earth fear the Lord;

**let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe
of him!**

Kyrie p. 152

Gloria in Excelsis p. 154

Salutation & Collect p. 156

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)

"Your words have been hard against me, says the Lord. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?' 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? And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.' "

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. "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. 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)

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 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. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 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. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

"Alleluia"

p. 156

Holy Gospel: St. Luke 23:27-43 (ESV)

And there followed [Jesus] a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for Him. But turning to them Jesus said, "*Daughters of*

Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the womb that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Him. 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. And Jesus said, "*Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.*" And they cast lots to divide His garments. 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!" The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!" There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, "*Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!*" But the other rebuked Him, saying, "Do You not fear God, since You are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." And He said to him, "*Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.*"

Nicene Creed p. 158

Hymn of the Day # 525

Sermon A Hard Word Against God?

Prayer of the Church

Offering

"What Shall I Render" p. 159

Service of the Sacrament	p. 160
Distribution Hymns	# 508, 832, 761
Thank the Lord	p. 164
Post-Communion Collect	p. 166
Benediction	p. 166
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 & recovering: Elsie Buchmann, Carey Fischer, Buck Follis (father of Kim Senske), Cheryl Marsh (daughter of Ardella Halter), Avery Sukut (cousin of Bieber), & Brenda Weigum.



Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

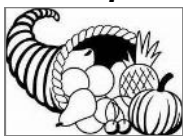
Worship: 131 Offerings: \$3,591.50

“And He is the head of the body, the church.” We are part of the Body of Christ; He is our Head. Where He goes, we follow. His thoughts direct our actions. This is how the people of God learn how to give, and why they give: Because Jesus gives, indeed He gives all He has.

Welcome to worship on the Last Sunday of the Church Year. At the end of the Church year, our worship focuses on the Second Coming of Christ. Today, our worship focuses on the time after Christ returns to reign as our King. Jesus truly is “the firstborn of the dead and the ruler of the kings on earth” (Revelation 1:5). Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

Our Voters Meeting is this morning after worship. Among the items of business will be the election of congregational officers and the adoption of the 2017 budget. Potluck brunch will follow the Voters meeting.

“You open Your hand; You satisfy the desire of every living thing (Psalm 145:16).” We give



thanks to our most gracious Father in heaven for all blessings of body and soul with our

Thanksgiving worship Wednesday,
November 23, 6:30 pm.

Bulletin & Calendar: Please have all information for next Sunday’s bulletin and the December calendar to the church office by 9:00 am Tuesday, November 22, as the church office will be closed Friday, November 25.



Church Decorating: Please join us after Bible Class & Sunday School next Sunday, November 27, to help decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas.

Mid-week Advent Services begin Wednesday, November 30, 6:30 pm. Please join us for soup and sandwiches served by the LWML at 5:30 pm.

Christmas Cards are on sale in the social hall. They are \$4.00 per box. Please give the money to Tina Heller. Checks should be made out to LWML.

The Family of Concordia is making meals for people in need, whether it be from illness or recovering at home. If you know of someone whom we could make meals for, please talk to Kristi Stevens or Pastor Heller.

What is Stewardship

Many people today are afraid to give because they fear that they will outlive their resources. A few years ago, an eighty-year-old woman with assets in the



multimillion-dollar range was asked to make a six-figure gift to a ministry. She declined, stating that she did not want to make such a large commitment at her age because she did not know if she would outlive her financial assets. Interestingly, the widow that Jesus speaks of in Luke 21:1-4 knew exactly how much she had to live on.

We do not know her age, but we do know that she gave 100 percent of her financial assets. She knew doing so would immediately put her in a situation where she was then outliving her resources. But she gave anyway!

If we fear that we will outlive our resources, are we not making a statement about our faith in God to care for us? Do we not trust the God whose eye is on the sparrow, who clothes the lilies of the field? Do we choose not to believe Jesus when he tells us not to worry? Do we dare take God at His word when challenged to bring the full tithe into the storehouse and see if God will not provide in abundance so much so that we will not have need? Do we really believe that Jesus came to give us life in abundance? Or not?

Think about our relationship to God regarding trust. Are there areas of your lives in which we need to increase our trust in God? Is our management of our finances one of them?

Richard Simenson, Stewardship Chairman

† This Week at Concordia †

- Sunday 8:30 am Divine Service
 9:30 am Program Practice/Voters
 Meeting
 10:30 am Potluck Brunch
- Monday 7:00 pm Adult Instruction
 7:00 pm Sarah Guild
- Tuesday 9:00 am Deadline for December
 calendar & November 27
 bulletin information
 1:00 pm Bible Class @ Knife River Care
 Center
- Wednesday 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Service @
 Concordia
- Thursday 10:00 am *Thanksgiving Service @
 Glen Ullin*
- Sunday 8:30 am Divine Service
 9:30 am Program Practice/Bible Class
 10:15 am Church Decorating
 11:00 am *Worship @ Glen Ullin*

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM—12:00 PM

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