

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

March 26, 2017

4th Sunday in Lent



*With you is the fountain of life;
in your light do we see light.*

Psalm 36:9

vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools.

And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them.

They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods."

Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see!

Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord?

He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.

The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

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.



The Handbell Choir will ring "The Lamb" following the Gradual.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14 (ESV)

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

"Alleluia" *is omitted during Lent*

Holy Gospel: St. John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39 (ESV)

As [Jesus] passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, *"It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."* Having said these things, He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then He anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, *"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam"* (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, *"Do you believe in the Son of Man?"* He answered, "And who is He, sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, *"You have seen Him, and it is He who is speaking to you."* He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped Him. Jesus said, *"For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."*

Nicene Creed p. 191

Hymn of the Day # 551

Sermon Why?

Offertory p. 192

Offering

The Handchime choir will ring "The Wonderful Cross" on the bells during the gathering of our morning offerings.

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament	p. 194
Distribution Hymns	# 421, 619, 632
Nunc Dimittis	p. 199
Thanksgiving	p. 200
Benedicamus and Benediction	p. 201
Closing Hymn	# 744

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: Kevin Boeszler, Dennis Blaisdell (brother of Steve), Tom Bornemann, Rev. Mark Drews, Derek Ferebee, Berniece Homuth, Cheryl Marsh (daughter of Ardella Halter) & Anna Pischel.

Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 91 Offerings: \$3,911.00

I cry to you, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living." The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control – so we can follow His Word in confidence.

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.



The Salutory Gift: Our midweek worship continues this Wednesday, March 29th, 6:30 pm. "Rest for the Weary" will be the focus of our worship. Please join us for soup and sandwiches at 5:30 pm.

You are invited to join Pastor Heller and family next Sunday, April 2, to welcome Christian's fiancé, Laura Pittman, and her family to Beulah. Christian and Laura are to be wed in Newfoundland, Canada, in July 2018. Please join us for coffee and rolls in the social hall following worship.

The April calendar, birthday and anniversary sheet, "Happy Times" booklets, and February council minutes are in the black stacking trays in the social hall.

An LYF Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 9th, 3:00 pm. All youth grades 7-12 are encouraged to attend. We will be dyeing Easter eggs and having pizza along with the meeting.

"Thank You" to Maria Galster, Savannah Elkins, Leeta Aanderud, and Nona Blaisdell for providing bars/cookies during the month of March.



Thank you everyone for providing Christian materials and monetary gifts for our Mission Mailings. However, we do not mail hard covered Bibles, the LWML Quarterlies and The Lutheran Witness.

Easter Breakfast will be served following our Easter service at approximately 9:30 am. The menu includes sausage, breakfast bakes, muffins/sweetbreads/sweet rolls, juice, coffee and of course Easter eggs. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the social hall if you would like to volunteer to bring any items.



Concordia youth have chosen Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) as a mission project. FMSC is a Christian non-profit committed to feeding God's children, hungry in body and soul.

We will be supporting in a few different ways. Our portion of the Lenten soup and sandwich offerings will be given to them as well as another fundraiser. As a fundraiser we will be selling M & M tubes of candy with the FMSC logo for \$2.00. We ask that when you have emptied the candy to fill it with quarters or any of your pocket change and that also will be given as a donation.

On August 26, 2017 there will be a mobile pack event at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church where volunteers will gather for a day of packing meals. Our youth will go as a team to pack for a couple of hours. You may remember back to August of 2016 where a group from Concordia volunteered.

