

# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

July 16, 2023

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



*The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the word of our God will stand forever.*

*Isaiah 40:8*

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

**Welcome to worship** in the season of Pentecost. The green paraments remind us that this is the season of growth. The theme of Pentecost is living a Christian life. As Christ strengthens us through His Word, the spoken Word and the visible Word of the Sacraments, we grow more like Him in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Visitors, please sign our guestbook and worship with us again soon.

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.

**DIVINE SERVICE**                      **Setting Four**

**Hymn of Invocation**                      # 908

**Confession & Absolution**              p. 203

**Introit**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

As for man, his days are like grass;  
**he flourishes like a flower of the field;**  
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
**and its place knows it no more.**

But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,  
**and his righteousness to children's children,**  
to those who keep his covenant  
**and remember to do his commandments.**

The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,  
**and his kingdom rules over all.**

**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.**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**Kyrie**    p. 204

**Gloria In Excelsis**                      p. 204

## **Salutation & Collect** p. 205

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **Old Testament:** Isaiah 55:10-13

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

"For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

## **Gradual**

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

**How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!**

For from him and through him and to him are all things.

**To him be glory forever.**

## **Epistle Reading:** Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

## **Alleluia and Verse** p. 205

## **Holy Gospel:** St. Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about Him, so that He got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And He told them many things in parables, saying: *"A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched.*

*And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear."*

*"Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."*

<b>Apostles' Creed</b>	p. 207
<b>Hymn of the Day</b>	# 577
<b>Sermon</b>	Gladly Hearing & Learning God's Word
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>Prayer of the Church</b>	
<b>Service of the Sacrament</b>	p. 208ff
<b>Distribution Hymns</b>	# 826, 643, 632
<b>Nunc Dimittis</b>	p. 211
<b>Post-Communion Collect</b>	p. 212
<b>Benediction</b>	p. 212
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	# 921



**In our thoughts and prayers,**

† Tina Heller, Elijah Struxness, Deane Weidner, and Jan Wolf (sister-in-law of Myron & Carrie Hafner).

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. (Mt 25:40).* With His words, Jesus reminds us that He does His work on earth through us – our hands, feet, mouths, and check books.

- This morning, there is a basket for donations to Brent & Danielle Mittelsteadt. Their son, Elijah Struxness, was burned in a fire and spent several weeks hospitalized in St. Paul, MN.
- Donations can also be put in Nona Blaisdell’s mailbox or given to her.
- Remember also that you can sign up to bring meals to the Mittelsteadts on Concordia’s website, [www.concordiabeulah.org](http://www.concordiabeulah.org). Click on “Meal Train” from the top menu.



**You are invited** to an Open House to celebrate with Bob & Marlene Schriefer their 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary today, 1-3 pm. No Gifts please! Gift Bob & Marlene with the honor of your presence.

**Rain Gutters:** The rain gutters around the outside of the sanctuary part of the church building were recently replaced. We received a settlement with our insurance carrier for weather damage, which paid for the majority of the work. The old gutters are available for the taking, free of charge, until August 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have any questions, please talk to Richard Simenson.



**The July Ingathering** is school supplies for Woman’s Action & Resource Center. Donations can be left on the shelves in the entryway.

**Watering Flowers:** A sign-up sheet is on the table in the social hall to volunteer to water the flowers. Please note that when you sign up for a date, it is for the entire week following that Sunday. Thank you!

## **Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance**

Worship: 79 Offerings: \$4,751.00

*“So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh,  
to live according to the flesh.”*

*Romans 8:12*

*We owe the flesh, the world, and the devil nothing at all. We are not debtors to these enemies; we are freed by the blood of Christ. We are joyful servants in Christ’s kingdom — servants that He calls friends. We share our Lord’s plans and purposes, and this gives direction and purpose to our lives.*

### **✠ This Week at Concordia ✠**

Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	1 – 3 pm	Open House for Schriefer’s 65 <sup>th</sup> Wedding anniversary
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	10:00 am	Divine Service

#### **Church Office Hours**

Monday – Friday

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Church: 873-4388

Parsonage: 873-4223

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