

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

September 24, 2023

17th Sunday after Pentecost



*By grace you have been saved through faith.
And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God*

[Ephesians 2:8]

✠ 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 guest book and worship with us again soon!

DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Four

Hymn of Invocation

555 (st. 1, 6-10)

Confession & Absolution

p. 203

Introit

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the Lord.

What shall I render to the Lord
for all his benefits to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord,

Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his saints.

O Lord, I am your servant;

**I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.
You have loosed my bonds.**

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.

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the Lord.

Kyrie

p. 204

Gloria in Excelsis

p. 204

Salutation & Collect

p. 205

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; 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 55:6-9

"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

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.

Gradual

Fear the Lord, you his saints,

for those who fear him lack nothing!

Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Epistle Reading: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Alleluia and Verse

p. 205

Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 20:1-16

[Jesus says] "For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the

scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?'

So the last will be first, and the first last."

Apostles' Creed	p. 207	Distribution Hymns	# 744, 781, 631
Hymn of the Day	# 826	Nunc Dimittis	p. 211
Sermon: God's Ways Are Not Our Ways		Post-Communion Collect	p. 212
Offering		Benediction	p. 212
Prayer of the Church		Closing Hymn	# 742
Service of the Sacrament	p. 208ff.		

**WE GO FROM THIS PLACE OF WORSHIP WHERE WE ARE ABOUT
EQUIPPING DISCIPLES TO MAKE DISCIPLES FOR JESUS**



Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 72 Offerings: \$2,760.00

*"And when those hired about the eleventh hour came,
each of them received a denarius."*

Matthew 20:9

Behold the generosity of God! He gives out of His grace, not what we deserve to receive. Living a godly life means living in imitation of God — and surely one of the foundations of God's being is His generosity.

Announcements

Pastor Heller will be on vacation September 27 – October 3. In case of emergency, please call Jamey Backus, 880-0621.

Gideons International is an Association of Christian business and professional men and their wives dedicated to telling people about Jesus through associating together for service, sharing personal testimony, and by providing Bibles and New Testaments. This morning, Dan Pillar will be with us to share with us more about the work of the Gideons.

Lutheran Witness: It is time to renew subscriptions. If you are currently receiving the magazine, you will continue receiving it. Anyone who would like to begin receiving the magazine, please email concordiasecretary@westriv.com or call the Church office by Friday, October 6th.



LWML Sunday is celebrated annually in The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod (LCMS) churches. Come, join us on LWML Sunday on October 8th.

INGATHERING: The September Human Care is collecting “Essentials,” such as laundry products, dish soap, hand soaps and personal hygiene products for Women’s Action & Resource Center. Items can be left on the shelves in the entryway.



Greeters are needed for the month of October.

Baby Shower

We are having a table top baby shower for Paula Jo Armbrust, the daughter of Evan & Joszy (Erickson) Armbrust. Paula Jo was born August 22, 2023 and baptized September 3, 2023 in a private ceremony. Let's celebrate Paula Jo and welcome her into our Concordia Family by showering her with gifts. Gifts can be placed on the decorated table in the social hall.

✠ This Week at Concordia ✠

Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Bible Class
Tuesday	1:30 pm	Bible Class @ Knife River Care Center
Wednesday	4:00 pm	Catechism
Thursday	9:00 am	Deadline October calendar...
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship Service

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM—12:00 PM

Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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ND District LCMS Message in a Pew September 2023

Board of Directors Updates

The Board of Directors met at St. Mark, Minot, on Friday, August 18th, for their third quarter meeting. Some important updates came out of this meeting.

Vacancies filled. Since Rev. Steve Schulz, who was the Chairman of the BOD and the East first vice president, had left our ND District, Rev. Kirk Peters, (West) moved from second vice president to first. Mr. Tom Langer moved from vice chairman to chairman and Rev. Dr. Adam Filipek was elected vice chairman. The board elected Rev. Mark Chepulis to fill the second vice president position from the East.

Salary Guidelines. Proposed salary guidelines for 2024 were approved. The documents can be found on the District website and all the congregations.

Wittenberg Chapel Organ Fund. The Chapel is in need of a new organ (the old one cannot be repaired economically) and the goal is to raise \$100,000 in time to be able to dedicate it at the 60th Anniversary celebration. The Board approved to match all donations made by January 31, 2024, up to \$50,000.

New Website. I am excited to announce that a new District website has been launched! Go to nodaklcms.org and check it out! The goal is to keep the calendar up to date and have it serve as a one stop place to find out what is going on in the District and get any appropriate registration forms as needed. More content will be added to the website by our new communications manager, Adrienne Montonye, as she has time. If you have information for the website, please email either Adrienne at communicationslcmsnd@gmail.com or Tami at lcms.nd.busman@gmail.com.

Congregations' Status

Pres. Arie Bertsch

St. Peter-Belfield: vacancy (Rev. Anthony Ahrendt).

Redeemer-Grassy Butte: vacancy (Rev. Mike Wolters).

Crosspointe-Fargo: vacancy (Rev. Chris Waldvogel).

Peace-Garrison; St. Matthew-Max: vacancy (Rev. Nathan Schieber).

Grace-Fargo: vacancy (Rev. Bernie Worrall).

Pastors & DCE's

Rev. Matthew Tooman, First English-Fairmount, Immanuel-Wahpeton returned a call to Holy Trinity-Logan, UT.

Rev. Lester Wolfgram, Shepherd of the Valley-Bismarck, returned a call to Faith and Holy Trinity-Menomonie, WI.

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LCMS
Financial Information
August 2023

INCOME:

Congregational Mission Giving	\$68,784.66
Less Synodical Pledge (35%)	(\$24,074.63)
Net Congregational Mission Giving	\$44,710.03
Other Unrestricted Gifts	1,006.08
1-1-1 Mission Giving	660.95
Current gifts/fees for missions	12,704.85
Available Income	\$59,081.91

EXPENSES:

Local Missions and Committee Activities: (Includes Wittenberg Chapel, Deaf Ministry, Youth)	\$17,585.86
Congregational Support/Operating Expenses (Includes General Operations, District President, Business Manager, Board of Directors)	41,896.94
International/Local Missions	
Christ's Care for Children – Kenya (\$10,000)	2,500.00
Chile Mission (\$20,000)	5,000.00
Chile Mission— Special Events	0.00
Shepherd's Hill Retreat (\$5,000)	2,177.85
(These missions were voted on by the District Convention. They will be paid quarterly as funds are available)	
Current Expenses	\$69,160.65
NET OPERATING LOSS FOR AUGUST	(\$10,078.74)
Funds Given used for Current Expenses	\$11,484.33
Year To Date NET INCOME/LOSS	(\$3,783.35)

August was a typical summer income month and overall giving is at our average for this point of the fiscal year. Part of the Fall semester student aid payments were made; the rest will be paid in September. Second quarter convention resolution missions were also paid.

Gifts from individuals and congregations designated for our convention resolution missions are sent at the end of each fiscal quarter. YTD designated gifts for these missions as of August 31, 2023:

Christ's Care for Children – Kenya	\$1,468.18
Chile Partnership	\$1,391.00
Shepherd's Hill Retreat	\$2,327.85

Please contact Tami Ulland at lcms.nd.busman@gmail.com or call 701-360-1469 if you have more questions.

You can now use your credit/debit card to donate directly to the District. Click on the Give button on nodaklcms.org to pick where you would like your donation directed.