

# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

February 23, 2025

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany



*"Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."*

*Luke 6:36*

✠ IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

**Welcome to worship** in the season of Epiphany. "Epiphany" means "appearance." In this season of the Church year, we rejoice that God has appeared to us and made Himself known to us in the appearance of His Son, Jesus of Nazareth. Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

**DIVINE SERVICE**                      **Setting One**

**Hymn of Invocation**                      # 851

**Confession & Absolution**                      p. 151

**Introit**

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;

**fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.**

Fret not yourself because of evil doers;

**be not envious of wrong doers!**

For they will soon fade like the grass

**and wither like the green herb.**

Trust in the Lord, and do good;

**dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.**

Delight yourself in the Lord,

**and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

Commit your way to the Lord;

**trust in him, and he will act.**

**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.**

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;

**fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way.**

**Kyrie**    p. 152

**Gloria In Excelsis**                              p. 154

**Salutation & Collect**                              p. 156

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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 45:3-15

And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a

father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

### **Gradual**

Praise the Lord, all nations!

**Extol him, all peoples!**

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

**and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.**

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name,

**bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

**Epistle Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42

For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Why am I in danger every hour? I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

**"Alleluia"**

p. 156

## **Holy Gospel: St. Luke 6:27-38**

[Jesus says] *"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.*

*To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them."*

*"If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."*

**Nicene Creed** p. 158

**Hymn of the Day** # 649

**Sermon:** *"Even as your Father is merciful"*

**Offering**

**"What Shall I Render"** p. 159

**Prayer of the Church**

**Service of the Sacrament** p. 160

**Distribution Hymn:** # 620 (st. 1-4) 660, 790

**"Thank the Lord"** p. 164

**Post-Communion Collect** p. 166

**Benediction** p. 166

**Closing Hymn** # 727

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

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.

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2021 Concordia Publishing House

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Annual Voters Meeting** is this morning, following worship. Unapproved minutes from the November 17, 2024 meeting are on the table in the social hall. Apple & cherry turnovers will be served during the meeting.



**The February Ingathering** is tuna for Women's Action & Resource Center and also kids snacks for elementary school snack pantry.



**A sign-up sheet** is on the table in the fellowship hall if you are interested in bringing cookies, bars or treats for Sunday coffee hour.



**In our thoughts and prayers,**  
† Richard Kuntz, Jodi Schriefer's father.

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

Offering: \$22,975.00    Worship: 69

*"Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them."*

*Luke 6:30-31*

Is it really possible to live like this? Would it really work to be so open-handed and generous? Our conscience often reminds us of our failures, and the Lord knows our frailty, that's for sure! But a life of faith is a life lived in imitation of Jesus — and every follower of Jesus knows that yes, indeed, it is better to give than to receive.

### **✠ THIS WEEK AT CONCORDIA ✠**

Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Voters Meeting
Tuesday	1:30 pm	Bible Class @ Knife River Care Center
Wednesday	4:00 pm	Catechism
	7:00 pm	Elders Meeting
Thursday	2:30 pm	Pastor @ Marian Manor, Glen Ullin
Friday	9:00 am	Deadline for March calendar information
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Bible Class

**Church Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Church: 873-4388  
Parsonage: 873-4223  
revheller@westriv.com  
concordiasecretary@westriv.com  
Website: [www.concordiabeulah.org](http://www.concordiabeulah.org)