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# Concordia Lutheran Church

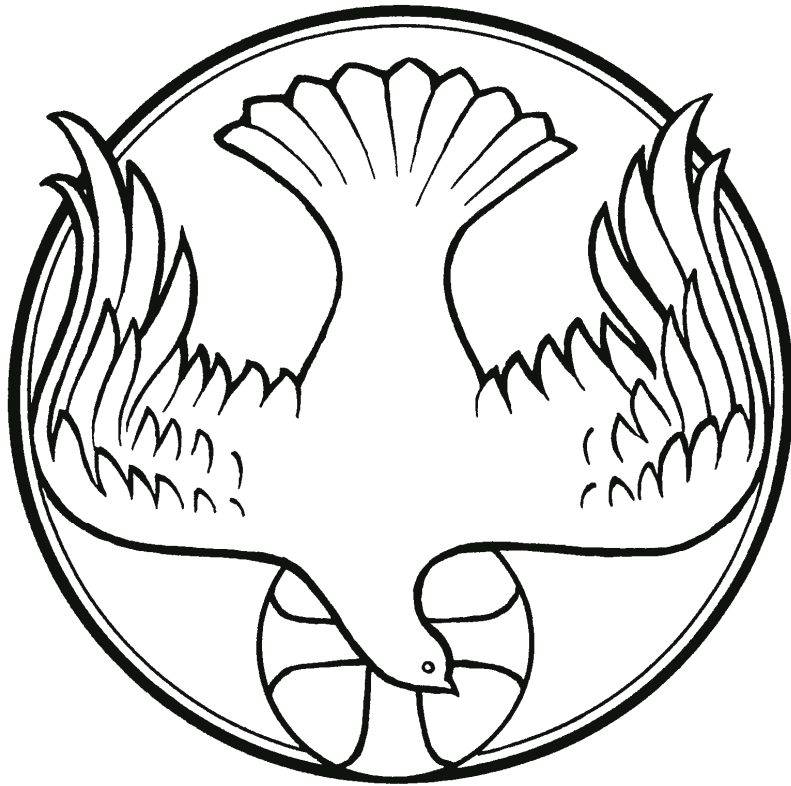
*The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

May 29, 2011



*We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;  
death no longer has dominion over Him.*

*In the world you will have tribulation.*

*But take heart; I have overcome the world.*

*Romans 6:9; John 16:33b*

**DIVINE SERVICE**                      Setting One

**Hymn of Invocation**                # 578    (st. 1-4)

**Confession & Absolution**    p. 151

**Introit**

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
    **and a light to my path.**

Forever, O Lord, your word  
    **is firmly fixed in the heavens.**

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;  
    **you have established the earth, and it stands fast.**

By your appointment they stand this day,  
    **for all things are your servants.**

If your law had not been my delight,  
    **I would have perished in my affliction.**

I will never forget your precepts,  
    **for by them you have given me life.**

**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.**

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
    **and a light to my path.**

**Kyrie**                                      p. 152

**This is the Feast**                      p. 155

**Salutation & Collect**                p. 156

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**First Reading: Acts 17:16-31 (ESV)**

Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for " 'In him we live and move and have our being';

as even some of your own poets have said, " 'For we are indeed his offspring.'

Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

## **Gradual**

Christ has risen from the dead.

**God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor,**  
He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;  
**he has put all things under his feet.**

## **Epistle Reading:** 1 Peter 3:13-22 (ESV)

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

**“Alleluia”**

p. 156

## **Holy Gospel:** St. John 14:15-21 (ESV)

*"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*

*"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. Whoever has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."*

<b>Nicene Creed</b>	p. 158
<b>Hymn of the Day</b>	# 594
<b>Sermon</b>	He Descended into Hell
<b>Prayer of the Church</b>	
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>“What Shall I Render”</b>	p. 159
<b>Service of the Sacrament</b>	p. 160
<b>Distribution Hymns</b>	# 556 (st. 1, 5-10), 619
<b>“Thank the Lord”</b>	p. 164
<b>Post-Communion Collect</b>	p. 166
<b>Benediction</b>	p. 166
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	# 725

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.

**Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!** Welcome to worship in the season of Easter. Today, we look forward to Christ's ascension and His sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Even though Jesus has ascended to the right hand of the Father in heaven, we rejoice. Jesus has not left us alone, as helpless orphans in this vale of tears. Jesus has sent the Holy Spirit, our Comforter, who brings us to Jesus, so that we trust, rejoice, and find comfort in our Savior. Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!



**Today**, we congratulate our 2011 high school graduates: Andrew Heller, Jackie Knudson, Skye Little Soldier, Carson Reinhardt, Samuel Reinhardt, Brooke Renner, and Jade Schaan. God's richest blessings on your future plans!

**The congregation** is invited to an open house for Andrew Heller to celebrate his high school graduation from 12:00—1:30 pm today at the Church.

**Please join us for Vacation Bible School** June 5-9, from 5:30-8:30 pm. "Big Jungle Adventure" is the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School.



Registration forms are on the table in the social hall. Tiffany Weigum has volunteered to be our director. If you would like to help in any way, please talk to Tiffany. There is a list on the table in the social hall of food items that can be donated for VBS. Our closing program will be on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**June calendars**, birthday and anniversary sheets, April Council Minutes, June Pray for Us Calendars, children's devotional booklets and the new lists for the Kitchen Service Groups are in the black stacking trays in the social hall. Please feel free to pick up any copies you wish.

With one flooded home after another all across North Dakota, the need is great and Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota is there to meet the need. Your generous help is needed in this effort through prayers and by volunteering. In addition, financial donations to Lutheran Disaster Response will provide assistance to those without sufficient means to recover on their own. Donations may be sent to LDR, PO Box 389, Fargo, ND 58107. To volunteer call 1-800-366-9841 or email LDRvolunteer@lssnd.org. To request help with your flood cleanup tasks or to apply for financial assistance, call 1-800-950-2901. When disaster strikes, sometimes all that is left to cling to is your faith! That's why Lutheran Social Services and Lutheran Disaster Response work hard to put *faith in action*.

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### **In our thoughts and prayers,**

- † Our sick and recovering: John Blaisdell (Steve's brother) & Marge Wiedrich;
- † Our 2011 high school graduates;
- † Our neighbors, whose lives and property have been affected by tornadoes, floods, & other natural disasters;
- † On this Memorial Day weekend, we remember the members of our Armed Forces and all of our military veterans;
- † For favorable weather, that all agricultural endeavors may produce a bountiful harvest.



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

Worship: 139 Offerings: \$ 3,060.25

1 Peter 3:13-22 reminds us that in Christ we have joy which no one or nothing can take away from us. As Easter people we can look forward to opportunities to share the hope that is within us and do it in a gentle and respectful way. If we suffer or are persecuted for our faith, then so be it. Our sure hope is in a just God who will reward the faithful with everlasting life and joy.

**† This Week at Concordia †**

Today	8:30 am	Divine Service
	12:00 -	Heller Graduation Open House
	1:30 pm	
Monday	Church Office Closed	
Tuesday	1:00 pm	Topic Leaders
	2:00 pm	Bible Class
Thursday	1:30 pm	Vesper Guild
Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service
	10:30 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
	5:30-8:30 pm	Vacation Bible School

**Church Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday 8:30 AM—12:30 PM  
Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223  
revheller@westriv.com  
concordiasecretary@westriv.com  
Website: www.concordiabeulah.org

*Please use a pew card to record your Church and/or  
communion attendance this morning.*