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# Concordia Lutheran Church

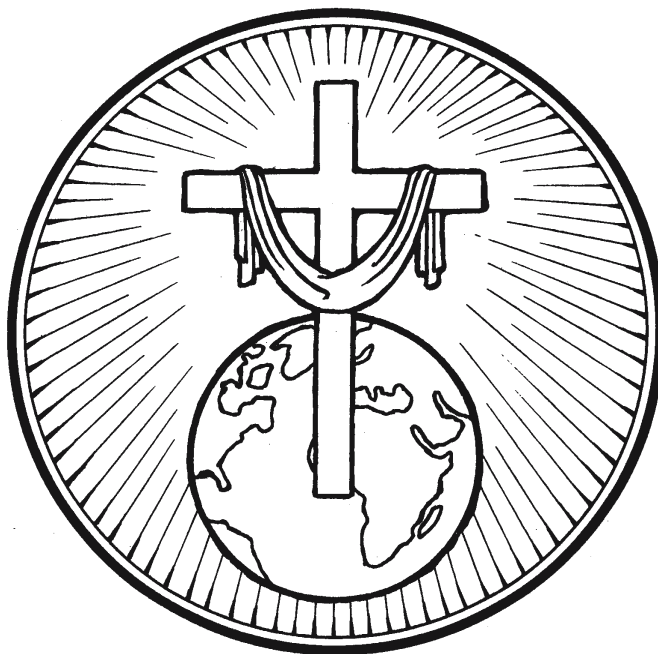
*The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

March 18, 2012



*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him should not perish  
but have eternal life.*

*John 3:16*

**DIVINE SERVICE**                      Setting Three

**Hymn of Invocation**                # 425

**Confession & Absolution**    p. 184

**Introit**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;

**though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after;

**that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.**

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

**he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high  
upon a rock.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

**Gloria Patri**                              p. 186

**Kyrie**                                        p. 186

**Gloria in Excelsis** *is omitted during Lent*

**Salutation & Collect**                p. 189

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Old Testament Reading:** Numbers 21:4-9 (ESV)

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he

take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

### **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.**

### **Epistle Reading:** Ephesians 2:1-10 (ESV)

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

*“Alleluia” is omitted during Lent*

### **Holy Gospel:** St. John 3:14-21 (ESV)

*And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life."*

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the*

*darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.*

<b>Apostles' Creed</b>	p. 191
<b>Hymn of the Day</b>	# 571
<b>Sermon</b>	God's Definition of Love
<b>Offertory</b>	p. 192
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>Prayer of the Church</b>	
<b>Service of the Sacrament</b>	p. 194
<b>Distribution Hymns</b>	# 566, 629
<b>Nunc Dimittis</b>	p. 199
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	p. 200
<b>Benedicamus and Benediction</b>	p. 201
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	# 837

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,**

† Rev. Dean Hartley and Aaron Rosenow;

† Ryan & Amanda Holder, on the birth of a son, Owen Tyler.

**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!

**Sunday School:** There will be no Sunday School today.

## God's Gift of Forgiveness

Our midweek Lenten services continue this Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. This week our worship focuses on God's Enduring Presence for You, based on Psalm 102. Soup and Sandwiches will be served by the Council beginning at 5:30 p.m.

**Council Members,** please remember our meeting this Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, following worship.



**Greeters** are needed for 2012. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the social hall.

**Thank you** Leeta Aanderud, Gayleen Briggs and Lucy Pfenning for providing cookies for the mission update last Sunday.

**If you are grieving** the loss of a loved one, you are invited to "Understanding Your Grief" sponsored by Sakakawea Medical Center Hospice. The 10-week group sessions will be starting on Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. For more information or to pre-register, call 748-7380. Please RSVP by Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.



## Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 110 Offerings: \$3,498.67

By God's grace we have been saved through faith in Jesus. Nothing that we can do makes any difference as far as our salvation is concerned, but what we do as God's stewards gives evidence that we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do the good works that God has prepared in advance for us to do. May we do this with joy!

† This Week at Concordia †

Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service
	9:30 am	Bible Class
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
Monday	7:00 pm	Sarah Guild
Tuesday	2:00 pm	Bible Class
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Soup/Sandwiches - Council
	6:30 pm	Lenten Services
	7:15 pm	Chime Practice
	7:30 pm	Council Meeting
	7:45 pm	Bell Practice
Thursday	7:00 pm	<i>Lenten Service @ Glen Ullin</i>
Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service
	9:30 am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>

**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.*