

4<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday  
of  
Easter

# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Roby H. Heller, Pastor

April 21, 2013



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

*I am the Good Shepherd.*

*I know My own and My own know Me.*

*Romans 6:9; John 10:14*

**Divine Service****Setting One****Hymn of Invocation**

# 711

**Confession & Absolution** p. 151**Introit**

I am the good shepherd,

**I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.**

He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds;

**from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance.**

With upright heart he shepherded them

**and guided them with his skillful hand.**

But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever;

**from generation to generation we will recount your praise.****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 am the good shepherd,

**I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.****Kyrie**

p. 152

**This Is the Feast**

p. 155

**Salutation & Collect** p. 156

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **First Reading: Acts 20:17-35 (ESV)**

Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. And when they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

## **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:** Revelation 7:9-17 (ESV)

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

**"Alleluia"**

p. 156

## **Holy Gospel:** St. John 10:22-30 (ESV)

At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How

long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

**Apostles' Creed** p. 159

**Hymn of the Day** # 709

**Sermon**

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offering**

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

**Service of the Sacrament** P. 160

**Distribution Hymns** # 740, 625, 632

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

**Post-Communion Collect** p. 166

**Benediction** p. 166

**Closing Hymn** # 735

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.

**Welcome to worship on Good Shepherd Sunday.** We celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday in the season of Easter to rejoice and find comfort in the victory our Good Shepherd Jesus won for us in His Easter resurrection. We rejoice that our Shepherd leads us through this valley of the shadow of death to the green pastures and still waters of heaven, where we will dwell forever. Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!



**LWML mites** will be collected today following the gathering of our morning offerings.

**Today in Sunday School**, the children learn how we are all like sheep who have gone astray. As a family, talk about this Good Shepherd Jesus, who rescues, gathers, and cares for us through His Word and Sacraments. In what way has He rescued you? Where can we find our Shepherd? (In His Word and Sacraments). Review the blessings of Baptism and the Lord's Supper in the catechism.

**1 John:** "Our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ." John writes (1 John 1:3). Please join us this morning for bible class as we begin a study of 1 John, learning what it means to have fellowship with God and with one another.

**Baby Shower:** The baby shower for Grady Elkins has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 23rd, 7:00 p.m. in the Church fellowship hall. The entire congregation is invited to attend the shower to welcome Grady into the Family of Concordia.

**It has so pleased God** in His wise grace to call from this vale of tears unto Himself in heaven the soul of our dear sister in the faith, Stella Gramm. Christian Burial was April 19, 2013. "*Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:57).*"

**Pastor Heller** will be at District Meetings Monday and Tuesday (22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>). In case of emergency, please call Sandy Buchmann, 873-2356.

**The Annual Meeting for Shepherd's Hill Retreat** is scheduled for May 4, 2013 at the retreat Chapel starting at 10:00 a.m. Each congregation is allowed two voting representatives to vote for Board elections. Come hear about the wonderful things going on at Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads and tour our beautiful facilities. You are also welcome to stay for the Compass Club Luncheon at 12:01 p.m. free of charge. Just let us know you are coming so we can prepare enough food. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

**Float:** The Mercer County Fair Parade is Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. If Concordia is going to have a float in the parade, we will need a coordinator to organize it. If you are willing to coordinate a float, please talk to Jamey Backus or Pastor Heller.

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

- † Kim Baszler;
- † The Family of Stella Gramm, as they mourn her death;
- † For those touched by the terrorist attack in Boston, especially for the injured and those who mourn the death of loved ones;
- † The residents of West, Texas, especially the injured and those who mourn the death of loved ones.

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

Worship: 39

"My sheep hear My voice and they follow Me." Jesus is the shepherd and we are the sheep—in that image the whole of Christianity is contained. We are dependent upon Jesus, we need Him to lead us, to show us what is good to eat, to find for us green pastures and still waters. That is why we follow Him—we know that His voice, His Word, is life. Jesus' sheep heed His voice even when heeding his voice is difficult precisely because they know that there is no life away from the Shepherd's Word and will.

## † This Week at Concordia †

Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service * Mites collected
	9:30 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
Monday —		Pastor @ District Meeting
Tuesday		
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Elkins Baby Shower
Wednesday	4:30 pm	Catechism
	7:00 pm	Chime Practice
	7:30 pm	Bell Practice
Thursday	9:00 am	Deadline for May calendar items
Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service
	9:30 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>

### Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 12:30 PM

Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4333

[revheller@westriv.com](mailto:revheller@westriv.com)

[concordiasecretary@westriv.com](mailto:concordiasecretary@westriv.com)

Website: [www.concordiabeulah.org](http://www.concordiabeulah.org)

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