

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

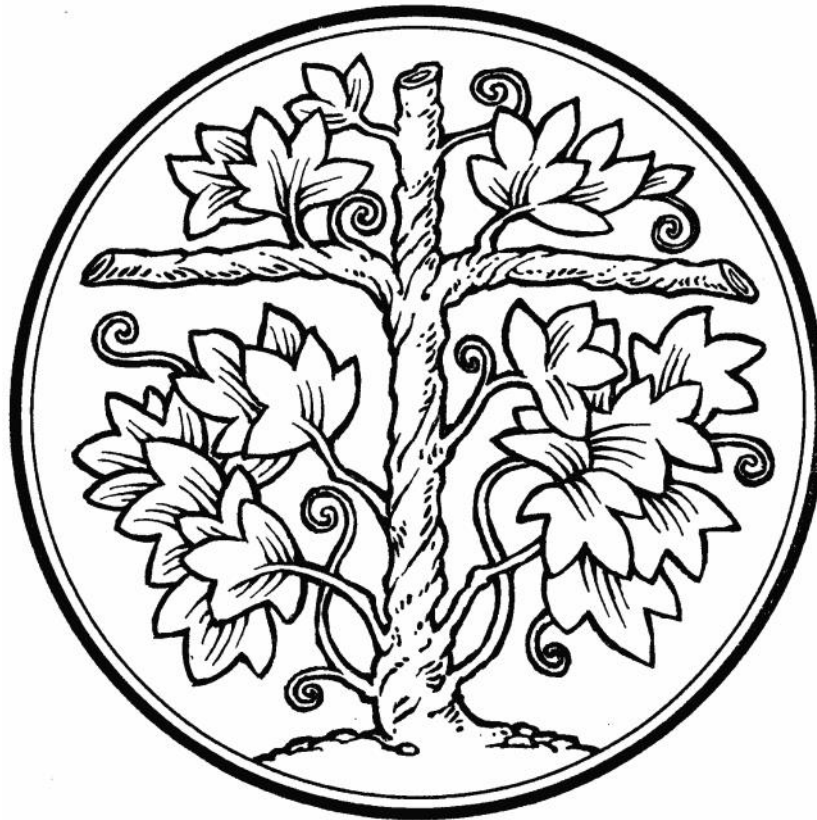
801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

April 29, 2018

5th Sunday of Easter



*We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
death no longer has dominion over Him.
If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word,
and My Father will love him,
and We will come to him and make our home with him.*

Romans 6:9; John 14:23

DIVINE SERVICE Setting One

Hymn of Invocation # 594

Confession & Absolution p. 151

Introit

A little while, and you will see me no longer;
and again a little while, and you will see me.

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your saints shall bless you!

My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

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.

A little while, and you will see me no longer;
and again a little while, and you will see me.

Kyrie p. 152

This is the Feast p. 155

Salutation & Collect p. 156

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; 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 8:26-40 (ESV)

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning,

seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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 John 4:1-21 (ESV)

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

“Alleluia”

p. 156

Holy Gospel: St. John 15:1-8 (ESV)

[Jesus says] "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of Mine that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples.

Hymn of the Day # 687
Sermon On Your Way

The Rite of Confirmation

Prayer of the Church

Offering

The Bell Choir will ring "Here I Am to Worship" during the gathering of our morning offerings.

"What Shall I Render" p. 159
Service of the Sacrament p. 160
Distribution Hymns # 474, 865, 596
"Thank the Lord" p. 164
Post-Communion Collect p. 166
Benediction p. 166
Closing Hymn # 919

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,

† Jake Sackman (brother-in-law of Dean & Elaine Renner) & Deane Weidner;

† For those confirmed today, that God would give them grace to keep the vows they make this day;

† For rain and favorable weather, that all agricultural endeavors may produce a bountiful harvest.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Welcome to worship in this season of Easter. As we celebrate the Easter resurrection of Christ, we remember that we have died to sin and been raised to a new life in Christ in the new birth of Holy Baptism. In our Gospel for today, Jesus teaches us that He is the Vine and we are the branches, “Abide in Me, and I in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me” (John 15:4). Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

To instruct our children and make them firm in the Christian faith begun at their baptisms, we have the rite of confirmation. Today, we celebrate this rite. Today we welcome our confirmands as communicant members in our Lord’s Church. Having been instructed in the Six Chief Parts of Christian doctrine as outlined in the Small Catechism, they today acknowledge and confess the gifts God has given them in their baptisms and their intention to continue steadfast in this Christian faith and church.

On this day, we are reminded of our own confirmation confession and vows. How well it is that we today hear the words of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther:

“Look at these bored, presumptuous saints who will not or cannot read and study the Catechism daily. They evidently consider themselves much wiser than God himself and wiser than all his holy angels, prophets, apostles, and all Christians! God himself is not ashamed to teach it daily, for he knows of nothing better to teach, and he always keeps on teaching this one thing without varying it with anything new or different. All saints know of nothing better or different to learn, though they cannot learn it to perfection. Are we not most marvelous fellows, therefore, if we imagine, after reading or hearing it once that we know it all and need not read or study it anymore? Most marvelous fellows, to think we can finish learning in one hour what God himself cannot finish teaching! Actually, He is busy teaching it from the beginning of the world to the end, and all prophets and saints have been busy learning it and have always remained pupils, and must continue to do so.”

(Preface to the Large Catechism)

Vacation Bible School: We are in need of a director for VBS. If you are interested in serving as the director for VBS, please talk to Pastor or Terence Schmidt.



Donations of pasta and Macaroni & Cheese for Women's Action & Resource Center are welcome during the month of May. Donations can be left on the shelves in the entryway.

The May calendar, birthday and anniversary sheet, council minutes and children's devotional booklets are in the black stacking trays in the social hall.

Compassion Sunday: Today, we remember the work of Compassion International, a Christian child advocacy ministry dedicated to helping children world-wide. Your sponsorship of a child provides opportunities such as education, medical care, food, and the opportunity to hear the Gospel. Information is available on the table in the social hall.

"Thank You" Debra Bonebrake, Maria Galster, and Carla Renner for providing bars/cookies for the month of April.



Greeters are needed for the month of May. Please sign the Greeters List on the bulletin board if you wish to greet.

Stewardship of Offerings & Attendance

Attendance: 108 Offerings: \$2,507.50

"Every branch of Mine that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit." God is interested in the fruit that we bear in good works, and He even prunes us so that we may bring forth more fruit. Trusting in our Lord's work for us, being grafted by grace into His vine, we desire to be more like Him, to grow into His image. That's growth in fruit bearing...and it always comes with some pruning.

† This Week at Concordia †

Sunday	8:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Sunday School
Tuesday	10:15 am	Holy Communion @ Knife River Care Center
	2:00 pm	Bible Class
Wednesday	12:30 pm	Pastor @ Senior Suites, Hazen
Thursday	1:30 pm	Naomi/Vesper Guild
Sunday	8:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Sunday School/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



Concordia Lutheran Church

Beulah, North Dakota

April 29, 2018



*"Be thou faithful unto death,
and I will give thee a crown of life."
Revelation 2:10*



Born: July 18, 2002

Baptized: September 15, 2002
at Legacy United Methodist
Church, Bismarck, North
Dakota

Parents: Jonathan & Michelle
Schlender
Jason Bier

Sponsors: Jeremy & Misti Vogle

*"I am the vine; you are the branches.
Whoever abides in Me and I in him,
he it is that bears much fruit, for
apart from Me you can do nothing."*



Born: December 5, 2002

Baptized: December 22, 2002
at Concordia Lutheran Church,
Beulah, North Dakota

Parents: Mark & Heather
Ferebee

Sponsors: Mark Clement &
Suzette O'Donnell

*Be strong and courageous. Do not
be frightened, and do not be
dismayed, for the LORD your God is
with you wherever you go.*

Joshua 1:9



Born: February 11, 2002

Baptized: July 14, 2002 at
St. James Lutheran Church,
Golden Valley, North Dakota

Parents: Scott & Melissa
Schlender

Sponsors: Perry & Sherry
Walker and Bobbie Bearstail

*"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."*

John 10:27-28



Born: September 21, 2002

Baptized: November 3, 2002
at Beautiful Savior Lutheran
Church, Fargo North Dakota

Parents: Shanan & Pam Weigum

Sponsors: Tiffany Weigum and
David & Michelle Week

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own
understanding.*

Proverbs 3:5

Symbols used in the Lutheran Rite of Confirmation

1. The White Robe: The white robe is a remembrance of Holy Baptism, when we “put on” the holiness and righteousness of Jesus Christ which covers our sinfulness, *For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ (Galatians 3:27)*. It is in baptism that we are united by faith to Christ and His eternal life becomes our eternal life. The white robe also reminds us of the white robe we will wear in heaven for eternity, *These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb (Rev. 7:14)*.

2. The Red Carnation over the Heart: Each confirmand wears a red carnation over the heart. The color red is a reminder *you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot (1 Peter 1:18-19)*. Worn over the heart, the red flower is a reminder that our heart is always to be filled with faith toward our Savior Jesus Christ.

3. Kneeling on Bended Knee: Kneeling is a sign of submission. Kneeling is an acknowledgment of someone greater than the person kneeling. Thus, when the confirmands (or any Christians) kneel, they are confessing before heaven and earth that God is above them and that they are God’s servants. On bended knee, the confirmands confess that they are His own and will live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

4. The Laying on of the Hands: The Pastor places a hand upon the head of the confirmand and gives the confirmand a special blessing and a special passage of God’s Word. Thus, the Lord of the Church and the Church Herself through the Called Minister of Christ give special blessing to the confirmand. The Church now recognizes the confirmand as a communicant member with all its rights, privileges, and responsibilities.