

# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

November 15, 2020

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



*I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end.*

*Revelation 22:13*

**DIVINE SERVICE**

**Setting One**

**Hymn of Invocation**

# 663

**Confession & Absolution**

p. 151

**Introit**

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

**In your faithfulness answer me,  
in your righteousness!**

Enter not into judgment with your servant,

**for no one living is righteous before you.**

I remember the days of old;

I meditate on all that you have done;

**I ponder the work of your hands.**

I stretch out my hands to you;

**my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!

**Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**

For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life!

**In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**

**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.**

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

**In your faithfulness answer me,  
in your righteousness!**

**Kyrie**

p. 152

**Gloria in Excelsis**

p. 154

**Salutation & Collect**

p. 156

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You.

Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **Old Testament: Zephaniah 1:7-16 (ESV)**

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests.

And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

"On that day," declares the Lord, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills.

Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.'

Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them."

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there.

A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

## **Gradual**

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.**

Blessed are those whose strength is in you,  
**in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

**Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (ESV)**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

**"Alleluia"**

p. 156

**Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 25:14-30 (ESV)**

*[Jesus says] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to*

*me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"*

**Nicene Creed** p. 158

**Hymn of the Day** # 508 (st. 1-4, 7)

**Sermon:** "That our faith may never be found wanting"

**Prayer of the Church**

**Offering**

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

**Service of the Sacrament** p. 160

**Distribution Hymns** # 613, 619, 632

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

**Post-Communion Collect** p. 166

**Benediction** p. 166

**Closing Hymn** # 338

Introit, Gradual, & Collect from *Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book*, St. Louis, MO, Concordia Publishing House, 2006.

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.

## Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 68 Offerings: \$2,638.00

*"And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness."*

Matthew 25:30a

Why did the worthless servant act the way he did? Because of what he believed about the Master. He didn't trust or love the Master. So, his actions did not demonstrate love and trust but rather hate and mistrust. It's the same with us, but in reverse. Since we know our Lord God to be faithful and kind, we desire to serve Him and render faithful service with what He has given us.



**1-1-1**  
**MISSION**  
**GIVING**

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT  
LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

1-1-1 Mission Giving  
1 Dollar  
1 Baptized Member  
1 Week, every week

Offering Box and informational pamphlets are available in the narthex.

**Welcome to worship this morning!** As the Church year nears its end, our worship begins to focus on the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. In our Christian faith and life, we are called to be watchful, eagerly awaiting our Lord's return. We wait, not with fear and dread, but with hope and joy, because the return of our Lord is Good News for us. When Christ comes again, He will forever deliver us from all the threatening perils of our sins. Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

**Our Voters Meeting** will follow worship this morning.



Voters Meeting

Among the items of business will be the election of congregational officers and the adoption of the 2021 budget. Nominations for congregational offices are posted on the bulletin board in the social hall. The unapproved minutes from the February Voters Meeting are on the table in the social

hall and on Concordia's website, [www.concordiabeulah.org](http://www.concordiabeulah.org).

**Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever** (Ps 135:1).



We give thanks to our most gracious Father in heaven for all blessings of body and soul with our Thanksgiving worship, Wednesday,

November 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM.

**During the month of November** donations of Thanksgiving meal canned goods will be collected for Women's Action & Resource Center. Please have all items at the Church by Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.



**Greeters** are needed for the month of December. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

