

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

January 29, 2023

4th Sunday after Epiphany



*"Blessed are poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

Matthew 5:3

Old Testament Reading: Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

"O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Gradual

Praise the Lord, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

“Alleluia” p. 156

Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him. And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Nicene Creed	p. 158	Service of the Sacrament	p. 160
Hymn of the Day	# 842	Distribution Hymns	# 618, 425, 526
Sermon: God Chose You in Christ!		“Thank the Lord”	p. 164
Offering		Post-Communion Collect	p. 166
“What Shall I Render”	p. 159	Benediction	p. 166
Presentation of Bibles		Closing Hymn	# 427
Prayer of the Church			



In our thoughts and prayers,

† Our sick and recovering: Archie Rosenow, Melvin Schlender, & Brenda Weigum.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Announcements



The January Human Care Project is collecting soup and crackers for Women's Action & Resource Center. Please put your donations in the shelf unit in the entryway.

2022 Contribution Statements have been emailed or are in your mailbox this morning.

The February calendar, birthday and anniversary sheet, October council minutes and "*Portals of Prayer*" devotional booklets for January - March are on the table in the social hall.

Thank you Leeta Aanderud and Nona Blaisdell for providing bars and rolls for fellowship during January.

2023 Offering Envelopes have been delayed at the printers. The following methods can be used for your offering:

1. Use a leftover envelope from 2022.
2. Checks can be placed directly into the collection plate.
3. For cash, take a green "My Offering" envelope from the pew rack, fill in your name and the amount and place in collection plate.

Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 73 Offerings: \$1,685.00

"Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe?

Where is the debater of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?"

1 Corinthians 1:18

God's ways are certainly not the world's ways, including the way God tells us to manage the resources He's given to us. The world says, "hold on, hold back and gather up." Jesus says to store up treasure in heaven where moth and rust do not destroy and where no thief breaks in to steal. Whose way do you think is best? What is wiser: the wisdom of the financial gurus or the foolishness of God?

† **This Week at Concordia** †

Sunday 8:00 am *Worship @ Glen Ullin*
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:00 am Divine Service
 11:00 am Bible Class

Wednesday 4:00 pm Catechism

Sunday 8:00 am *Worship @ Glen Ullin*
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:00 am Divine Service
 11:00 am 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

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

ND District LCMS Message in a Pew

January 2023

Tell the Good News About Jesus

February 10-11, 2023
Ramada Inn, Bismarck

Have you ever wanted to reach out to others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ but did not? Have you ever wanted to encourage family members with the Good News of salvation by grace through faith, but struggle with how to accomplish it? Have you been concerned about the future of your loved ones concerning eternal life? Have you been concerned about the future of your congregation or the church throughout the world? Do you want others to share the joy and peace of God's grace and mercy in His Son, Jesus Christ? If your answer to any of these questions is "Yes," join us for the "Tell the Good News about Jesus" convocation.



Our theme for the conference is Psalm 51 and the Joy of our Salvation. Keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola, Mid-South District President, and Mylo Hatzenbuehler will be providing Friday evening entertainment.

For more information and to register, go to nodaklcms.org or use the QR code.



Congregations' Status

Pres. Arie Bertsch

St. Peter-Belfield: vacancy (Rev. Anthony Ahrendt).

Redeemer-Grassy Butte: vacancy (Rev. Mike Wolters).

St. Martin-Anamoose; St. John-Kongsberg: have formed a multi-congregational parish with St. Peter, Sawyer and are served by Rev. Tim Stout.

First English-Fairmount: vacancy (Rev. Matthew Tooman).

Trinity-Drayton; Zion-English, Grafton; St. John-Crystal: vacancy (Rev. Craig Fenske).

Zion, Gwinner: Rev. Timothy Fitzner, Christ Lutheran, Normal, IL has returned the call (Rev. Chris Durham).

Peace-Garrison; St. Matthew-Max: vacancy (Rev. Nathan Schieber).

Pastors & DCE's

Rev. Michael Giddings, Crosspointe, Fargo, has accepted a call to the Nebraska District as Chaplain at the University of Nebraska.

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LCMS
December 2022

Financial Information

INCOME:

Congregational Mission Giving	\$100,438.54
Less Synodical Pledge (35%)	(\$35,153.49)
Net Congregational Mission Giving	\$65,285.05
Other Unrestricted Gifts	4,834.96
1-1-1 Mission Giving	2,577.14
Current gifts/fees for missions	15,487.89
Available Income	\$88,185.04

EXPENSES:

Local Missions and Committee Activities: (Includes Wittenberg Chapel, Deaf Ministry, Youth)	\$12,779.22
Congregational Support/Operating Expenses (Includes General Operations, District President, Business Manager, Board of Directors)	31,111.56
International/Local Missions	
Christ's Care for Children – Kenya (\$10,000)	0.00
Chile Mission (\$20,000)	0.00
Chile Mission— Special Events	3,602.00
Shepherd's Hill Retreat (\$5,000)	0.00
(These missions were voted on by the District Convention. They will be paid quarterly as funds are available)	
Current Expenses	\$46,351.98
NET OPERATING INCOME FOR DECEMBER	\$41,833.06
Past Funds Given used for Current Expenses	\$1,822.18
Year To Date NET INCOME	\$80,085.31

Timing is everything and some end of year contributions came in December. The District's fiscal year closes on January 31 so December end-of-year gifts can be included in the totals. Chili for Chile special event funds were paid out to the Chile Mission.

Gifts from individuals and congregations designated for our convention resolution missions are sent at the end of each fiscal quarter. YTD designated gifts for these missions as of December 31, 2022:

Christ's Care for Children – Kenya	\$6,558.47
Chile Partnership	\$4,450.50
Shepherd's Hill Retreat	\$7,315.86

Please contact Tami Ulland at lcms.nd.busman@gmail.com or call 701-360-1469 if you have more questions. You can now use your credit/debit card to donate directly to the District. Click on the Joyful Response button on nodaklcms.org. to pick where you would like your donation directed.