

# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

March 19, 2023

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent



*With you is the fountain of life;  
in your light do we see light.*

*Psalm 36:9*

## ✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

**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.

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.

**Divine Service**

**Setting Three**

**Hymn of Invocation**

# 425

**Confession & Absolution**

p. 184

**Introit**

My eyes are ever toward the Lord,

**for he will pluck my feet out of the net.**

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.**

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

**I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

My eyes are ever toward the Lord,

**for he will pluck my feet out of the net.**

**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:** Isaiah 42:14-21

For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.

I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools.

And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them.

They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods."

Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see!

Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord?

He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.

The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

## **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 5:8-14

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

**"Alleluia"** *is omitted during Lent*

## **Holy Gospel:** St. John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

As [Jesus] passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, *"It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."* Having said these things, He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then He anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, *"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam"* (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a

division among them. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "*Do you believe in the Son of Man?*" He answered, "And who is He, sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "*You have seen Him, and it is He who is speaking to you.*" He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped Him. Jesus said, "*For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.*"

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Nicene Creed</b>                | p. 191             |
| <b>Hymn of the Day</b>             | # 551              |
| <b>Sermon</b>                      | Hearing and Seeing |
| <b>Offering</b>                    |                    |
| <b>Offertory</b>                   | p. 192             |
| <b>Service of the Sacrament</b>    | p. 194             |
| <b>Distribution Hymns</b>          | # 629, 437, 537    |
| <b>Nunc Dimittis</b>               | p. 199             |
| <b>Thanksgiving</b>                | p. 200             |
| <b>Benedicamus and Benediction</b> | p. 201             |
| <b>Closing Hymn</b>                | # 744              |



**In our thoughts and prayers,**

† Joann Dilger (sister of Carol Hartman) and  
Ernie Riegel.



is managing resources, relationships and opportunities that have been entrusted to us by God - in a manner that glorifies Him and furthers His kingdom.

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

Worship: 50      Offerings: \$2,300.75

*"I cry to You, O Lord; I say,  
'You are my refuge,  
my portion in the land of the living.'"*

Psalm 142:5

The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, He is in control, so we can follow His Word in confidence.

## Announcements



**Promised Treasures:** Join us for our mid-week Lenten worship this Wednesday, 6:30 pm, as we look at “Bread of Life.” Soup and Sandwiches are served at 5:30 pm.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars** can be designated until March 31. To direct your Choice Dollars:

- Visit [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice) and select “Direct Choice Dollars”
- Or by phone, call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say, “Thrivent Choice”

**Church Pictorial Directory:** Pictures will again be taken Tuesday, April 4, - Wednesday, April 5. Members who have their picture taken will receive a free 8x10 picture and also a free church directory. If you did not have your picture taken in January, please consider your picture taken in April so that we can have our all our members in the new directory.

**Card Shower:** We are having a card shower for Eric &



Hayley Heller and their twin baby daughters, Eliza Drew & Palmer Louise, born March 2, 2023. There is a table in the social hall you can put cards on until April 1<sup>st</sup>. Any questions, please talk to Nona.



**The March Human Care Project** is collecting Bingo prizes for Knife River Care Center. Suggestions are, bags of popcorn, candy bars, sugar free candy, Pringles, snack bars, etc.



**Greeters** are needed for the month of April. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

