

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

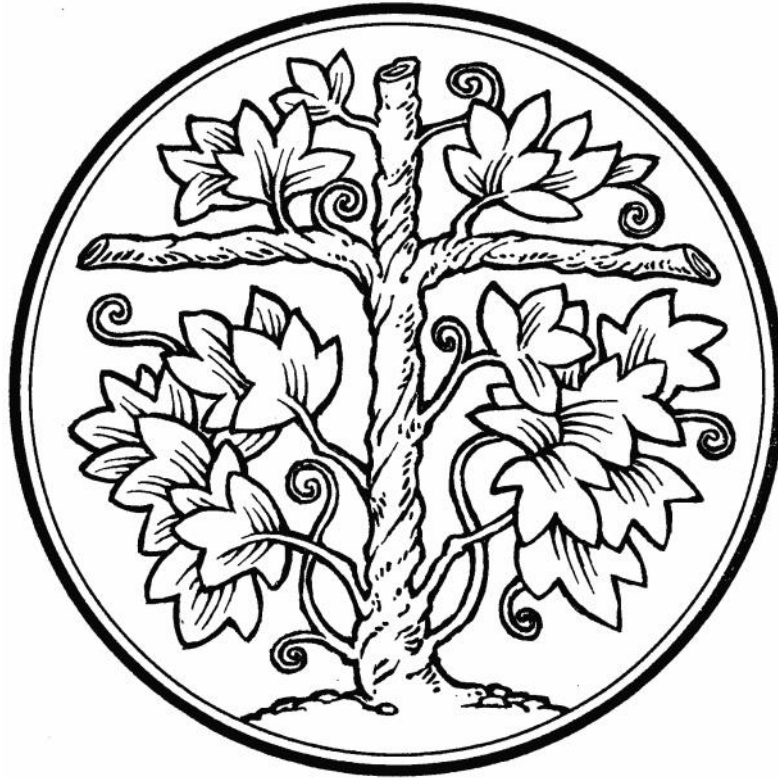
801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

April 28, 2024

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

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Welcome to worship in this season of Easter as we gather to rejoice that Christ has overcome death and the grave and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. *"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:55, 57).* Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

DIVINE SERVICE **Setting One**

Hymn of Invocation # 465

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

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 4:1-11

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.

“Alleluia” p. 156

Holy Gospel: St. John 15:1-8

[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."

Nicene Creed p. 158

Hymn of the Day # 594

Sermon: United to the Vine

Offering

“What Shall I Render” p. 159

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament p. 160

Distribution Hymns # 611, 865, 700

“Thank the Lord” p. 164

Post-Communion Collect p. 166

Benediction p. 166

Closing Hymn # 919 (st. 1-4)

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.

**WE GO FROM THIS PLACE OF WORSHIP WHERE WE ARE ABOUT
EQUIPPING DISCIPLES TO MAKE DISCIPLES FOR JESUS**

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2021 Concordia Publishing House

Announcements



LYF Bowling: You are welcome to join us for pizza and bowling, Wednesday, May 1st. We will meet at the bowling alley at 4:00 pm.

Our Adopted Seminary student, Joseph Greenmyer, was called to the parish of Faith, Parkston, SD, and St. Peter, Emery, SD, at Seminary Call Day this past week. How our hearts rejoice with Joseph, Faith, Abraham, & Bo, and for the parish of Faith & St. Peter. We cherish the words of the Apostle Paul to the young pastor Timothy, *Do the work of an evangelist (2 Timothy 4:5)*.

The May calendar and the birthday and anniversary sheet are on the table in the fellowship hall.

In our thoughts and prayers,



† Carter Johnson (grandson of Ray & Lorraine Sorge) & Mary Weidner (sister of Carolyn Riegel);

† For rain and favorable weather, that all agricultural endeavor may result in an abundant harvest.



Stewardship of Offerings & Attendance

Attendance: 70 Offerings: \$1,259.00

“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.”

John 15:2

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

Tuesday 1:30 pm Bible Class @ Knife River Care Center

Wednesday 1:00 pm LYF Bowling

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

Website: www.concordiabeulah.org

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

ND District LCMS Message in a Pew April 2024

1-1-1 Mission Giving

Recently someone asked if our 1-1-1 mission giving was still active. The answer is YES!!! If you haven't heard of it, the 1-1-1 Mission Giving is a simple way for you to give to our District missions such as Wittenberg Chapel, Main Street Living, Youth Ministry, Church Worker Financial Aid, Shepherd's Hill Retreat, Christ's Care for Children—Kenya, and the Chile Partnership. Just think - 1 dollar per 1 baptized member every week. \$52 per member a year can really add up and support our missions. Each LCMS ND District church should have a box and brochures on 1-1-1. If you have questions or need brochures or a box for your church, call Tami at 701-360-1469. Thanks for your support!



Congregations' Status

Pres. Arie Bertsch

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

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

Crosspointe-Fargo: Applying for a seminary candidate (Rev. Chris Waldvogel).

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

Grace-Fargo: Rev. Michael Suelzle will be installed June 2 (Rev. Bernie Worrall).

Immanuel-Fargo: Associate pastor vacancy.

Grace-Carrington: applying for a seminary candidate (Rev. Tom Eckstein).

Zion-Binford; Grace-Cooperstown: applying for a seminary candidate (Rev. Bob Hill).

Bethlehem/St. John-Upham; Zion-Kramer; Faith-Towner: vacancy (Rev. Carlyle Roth and Rev. Rick Jones).

Zion-Bismarck: applying for a seminary candidate as associate pastor.

Beautiful Savior-Fargo:
Associate pastor vacancy.

Pastors & DCE's

Rev. Michael Suelzle, St. Peter-Devils Lake, Grace-Lakota, St. Andrew-Niagara has accepted a call to Grace-Fargo.

Rev. Brian Doel, Our Savior-Minot has accepted a call to St. Peter-Portage, IN.

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LCMS
Financial Information
March 2024

INCOME:

Congregational Mission Giving	\$57,631.15
Less Synodical Pledge (35%)	(\$20,170.90)
Net Congregational Mission Giving	\$37,460.25
Other Unrestricted Gifts	1,695.33
1-1-1 Mission Giving	650.05
Current gifts/fees for missions	3,977.06
Available Income	\$43,782.69

EXPENSES:

Local Missions and Committee Activities: (Includes Wittenberg Chapel, Deaf Ministry, Youth)	\$20,298.67
Congregational Support/Operating Expenses (Includes General Operations, District President, Business Manager, Board of Directors)	30,565.77
International/Local Missions	
Christ's Care for Children – Kenya (\$10,000)	0.00
Chile Mission (\$20,000)	0.00
Chile Mission— Special Events	0.00
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	\$50,874.44
NET OPERATING LOSS FOR MARCH	(\$7,091.75)
Funds Given used for Current Expenses	\$1,006.68
Year To Date NET INCOME/LOSS	(\$14,446.74)

March giving was on the low end of average, which means income is still a bit behind where I would like it. Expenses were pretty normal and the loss gap is more manageable this month.

Gifts from individuals and congregations designated for our convention resolution missions are sent at the end of each fiscal quarter. YTD designated gifts/payments made to these missions as of March 31, 2024:

Christ's Care for Children – Kenya	\$25.00/\$0.00
Chile Partnership	\$25.00/\$0.00
Shepherd's Hill Retreat	\$50.00/\$0.00

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 Give button on nodaklcms.org to pick where you would like your donation directed.