

# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod*

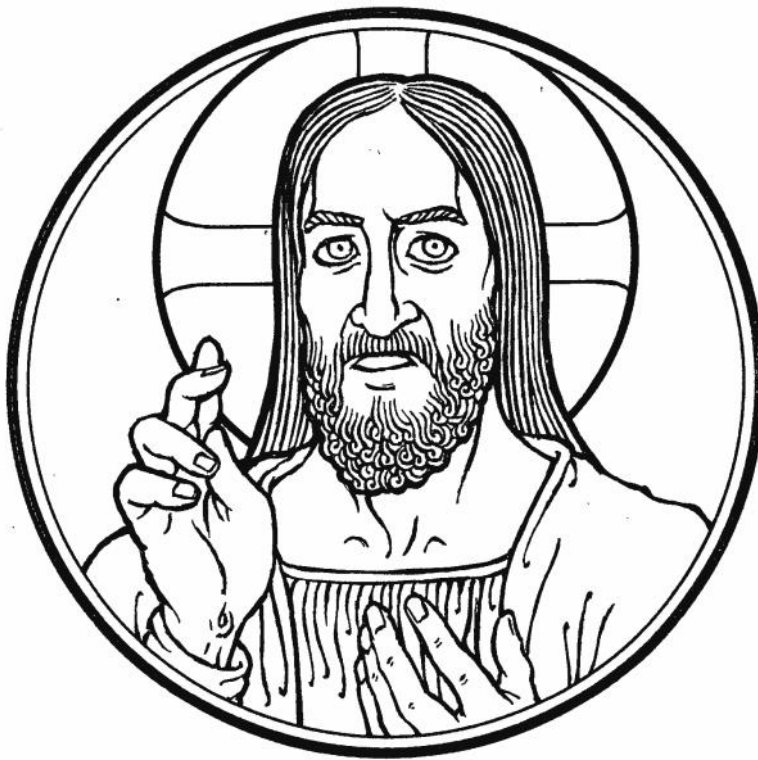
801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

April 27, 2025

Confirmation Sunday  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter



*We know that Christ being raised from the dead  
will never die again;  
death no longer has dominion over Him.  
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.  
Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

✠ 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. *“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:55, 57).* Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

**DIVINE SERVICE**                      **Setting One**

**Hymn of Invocation**                      # 487

**Confession & Absolution**                      p. 151

**Introit**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk,  
that by it you may grow up to salvation—

**if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;

**make known his deeds among the peoples!**

Sing to him, sing praises to him;

**tell of all his wondrous works!**

Glory in his holy name;

**let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!**

Seek the Lord and his strength

**seek his presence continually!**

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

**his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.**

He remembers his covenant forever;

**the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

**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.**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk,  
that by it you may grow up to salvation—

**if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

**Kyrie**                      p. 152

**“This is the Feast”**                      p. 155

**Salutation & Collect**                      p. 156

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord’s resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**First Reading: Acts 5:12-32**

Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon’s Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem.

And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

## **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: Revelation 1:4-18**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:  
Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

**"Alleluia"** p. 156

**Holy Gospel:** St. John 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, *"Peace be with you."*

When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, *"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you."* And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, *"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."*

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe."

Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, *"Peace be with you."* Then He said to Thomas, *"Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."* Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, *"Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

<b>Hymn of the Day</b>	<b># 689</b>	<b>Service of the Sacrament</b>	<b>p. 160</b>
<b>Sermon: The Missing Thomas</b>		<b>Distribution Hymn</b>	<b># 818, 594, 865, 632</b>
<b>The Rite of Confirmation</b>		<b>"Thank the Lord"</b>	<b>p. 164</b>
<b>Offering</b>		<b>Post-Communion Collect</b>	<b>p. 166</b>
<b>"What Shall I Render"</b>	<b>p. 159</b>	<b>Benediction</b>	<b>p. 166</b>
<b>Prayer of the Church</b>		<b>Closing Hymn</b>	<b># 687</b>

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

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### **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)

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,



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

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

## Announcements

**Ingatherings:** There is still time to bring paper products for WARC and gently used baby supplies for families in our area.

**Parents of Catechism student,** being we have finished the classroom instruction for the spring, your child's work will be in your mailbox.

**Thank you** to all whose dedicated service made the LWML Rally a wonderful success!

### ✝ This Week at Concordia ✝

Confirmation Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	10:00 am	Divine Service
Tuesday	1:30 pm	Bible Class @ Knife River Care Center
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	9:15 a m	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Bible Class

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from *Lutheran Service Book*

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### Church Office Hours

Monday

Monday – Friday

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Church: 873-4388

Parsonage: 873-4223

[revheller@westriv.com](mailto:revheller@westriv.com)

[concordiasecretary@westriv.com](mailto:concordiasecretary@westriv.com)

**ND District LCMS Message in a Pew**  
**April 2025**  
**Call Day**

Both seminaries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are preparing for their annual assignment and call services.

**Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW)**

- **Vicarage and Deaconess Internship Assignment Service** — Monday, April 28, 7 p.m. Eastern
- **Candidate Call Service** — Tuesday, April 29, 7 p.m. Eastern.

**Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL)**

- **Assignment of Vicarages and Deaconess Interns** — Wednesday, April 30, 3 p.m. Central
- **Assignment of Calls** — Wednesday, April 30, 7 p.m. Central

Check out [ctsfw.edu/callday](https://ctsfw.edu/callday) and [csl.edu/call-day](https://csl.edu/call-day) for streaming options and more information.

Please pray the Lord's blessings on all the candidates and their families as they prepare for their first calls and assignments!

**Congregations' Status**

**Pres. Mark Chepulis**

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

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

Crosspointe-Fargo: applying for seminary candidate (Rev. Chris Waldvogel & Rev. Dave Suelzle).

Christ Lutheran Parish-Garrison, Max, Underwood, Rural Hazen: Rev. Ben Hollingsead, St. Paul-Eden Valley, MN has returned the call (Rev. Daryl Rothchild & Rev. Paul Nelson; Rev. Zelwyn Heide; Rev. Kirk Peters).

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

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

**Pastors & DCE's**

Katie Rolf, Immanuel-Fargo, is considering a call to St. John-Chaska, MN.

Rev. Paul Preus, Zion-Ellendale, is considering a call to St. John-Morengo, IA.

**NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LCMS**  
**Financial Information**  
**March 2025**

**INCOME:**

Congregational Mission Giving	\$78,026.66
Less Synodical Pledge (35%)	(\$27,309.33)
<b>Net Congregational Mission Giving</b>	<b>\$50,717.33</b>
Other Unrestricted Gifts	5,461.87
1-1-1 Mission Giving	767.02
Current gifts/fees for missions	15,580.37
<b>Available Income</b>	<b>\$72,526.59</b>

**EXPENSES:**

Local Missions and Committee Activities: (Includes Wittenberg Chapel, Church Workers, Youth)	\$17,602.61
Congregational Support/Operating Expenses (Includes General Operations, District President, Business Manager, Board of Directors)	47,561.90
International/Local Missions	
Christ's Care for Children – Kenya (\$25,000)	0.00
Chile Mission (\$25,000)	0.00
Shepherd's Hill Retreat (\$10,000)	0.00
(These missions were voted on by the District Convention. They will be paid quarterly as funds are available)	
<b>Current Expenses</b>	<b>\$64,164.51</b>

**NET OPERATING INCOME FOR MARCH**

**\$8,362.08**

Funds Given used for Current Expenses

**\$14,891.54**

**Year To Date NET INCOME/LOSS**

**\$7,364.53**

Congregational Giving was good, expenses were down, and we are in the black! Seeing a "banking" of the dollars through the quarter is good as we move towards making the quarterly payments to our convention resolution missions.

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, 2025:

Christ's Care for Children – Kenya	\$325.00/\$0.00
Chile Partnership	\$2,560.00/\$0.00
Shepherd's Hill Retreat	\$200.00/\$0.00

Please contact Tami Ulland at [lcms.nd.busman@gmail.com](mailto:lcms.nd.busman@gmail.com) or call 701-360-1469 if you have more questions.



# Concordia Lutheran Church

Beulah, North Dakota

April 27, 2025



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

*Revelation 2:10*



## **Kamryn Lyn Bonebrake**



Born: December 1, 2009

Baptized: March 7, 2010 at Concordia Lutheran Church,  
Beulah, North Dakota

Parents: Chris & Debra Bonebrake

Sponsors: Peter Bonebrake and Arlene Bracken

*"Fear not, for I am with you;  
be not dismayed, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help you,  
I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."  
Isaiah 41:10*

## **Aiden James Frey**



Born: January 5, 2009

Baptized: March 15, 2009 at Concordia Lutheran Church,  
Beulah, North Dakota

Parents: Travis Frey and Joslyn Frey

Sponsors: Brandon Skalsky, Clinton Frey and Erica Hjelmstad

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.  
Proverbs 3:5*

## **Hudson Paul Rosenow**



Born: February 17, 2009

Baptized: March 1, 2009 at Zion Lutheran Church  
Gwinner, North Dakota

Parents: Aaron & Anne Rosenow

Sponsors: Wade & Katie Kummer and Audra Willis

*"Have I not commanded you?  
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*

## 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.