Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

November 15, 2026

25th Sunday after Pentecost



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

Revelation 22:13

✢ In the Name of Jesus ✢

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 and pray, "Thy Kingdom come," 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 in all His glory, 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!

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

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

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

[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. 1-2, 6-7)

Sermon: The Day of the Lord

Offering

“What Shall I Render” p. 159

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament p. 160ff.

Distribution Hymns: 627 (st. 1-4), 733, 623

“Thank the Lord” p. 164

Post-Communion Collect p. 166

Benediction p. 166

Closing Hymn # 783

We go from this place of worship where we are about
Equipping disciples to make disciples for Jesus



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.

For those unable to drink wine,
water with a drop of wine can be found in the center of each individual cup tray.



In our thoughts and prayers, we remember Bob Schriefer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever *(Psalm 134:1).* We give thanks to our most gracious Father in heaven for all our blessings of body and soul with our Thanksgiving worship on Wednesday, November 25th, 6:30 PM.



During the month of November donations of Thanksgiving meal foods will be collected for Women's Action & Resource Center. Please have all items at the Church by Tuesday, November 24th.

The November calendar, birthday & anniversary sheet and the October Council Minutes are on the table in the social hall.



Greeters are needed for December. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the social hall.

✢ This Week at Concordia ✢

Today	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Sunday School & Bible Class
Tuesday	1:30 pm	Bible Study
Wednesday	4:00 pm	Catechism
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Sunday School & 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

Last month the pastors of North Dakota gathered as St. John–Oakes for the Fall Pastors' Conference. Rev. Zelwyn Heide, pastor of St. Peter–Hannover and Zion–New Salem, presented Part II of the History of the North Dakota District. Rev. Heide did an excellent job. His presentation was both interesting and relevant to all of us in the North Dakota District. If you are interested, the presentation will soon be available on the Flaneur Record YouTube channel.

Rev. Mark Chepulis, North Dakota District President November



The Everlasting Light

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight
(LSB 361:1).

This year's Advent and Christmas theme is based on Isaiah 60 and employs Phillips Brooks' cherished hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (*LSB* 361).

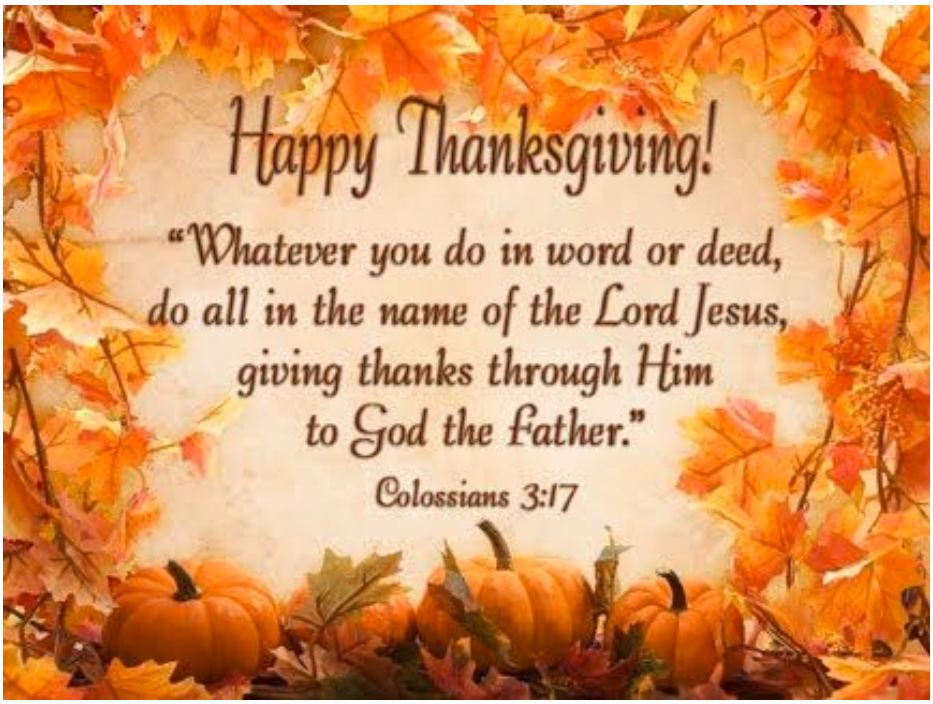
In 1868, Brooks had a problem. In a little over a week, he had to come up with a Sunday School Christmas program at the church where he was pastor in Philadelphia. Brooks had visited Bethlehem the previous year. He traveled on horseback between Jerusalem and Bethlehem on -- of all evenings -- Christmas Eve. Just as the sun was setting, Brooks saw Palestinian shepherds with their sheep. He gazed upon the sleepy village. The next day, he worshiped the Christ Child in the town's Church of the Nativity, built in AD 326 by the Roman Emperor Constantine.

These recent experiences inspired Brooks to write a poem for his church's Christmas program, which was sent to music and soon became an American favorite.

Brooks' masterpiece beautifully describes Bethlehem on a December night. The hymn moves back and forth from a description of Christmas to the meaning of Christmas. It ends with the prayer, "O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!" (st. 4).

When you connect Isaiah 60 to "O Little Town of Bethlehem," what happens? A wonderful weaving together of biblical hope and Christian hymnody!

December 2: "A Street Called Light" (Isaiah 60:1–3)
December 9: "A Street Called Beautiful" (Isaiah 60:4–9)
December 15: "A Street Called Impossible" (Isaiah 60:15–18)
Children's Christmas Program: "A Street Called Forever" (Isaiah 60:19–22)





Acknowledgments
Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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