



THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod

Office of the President  
The Reverend Doctor Matthew C. Harrison  
President of the Synod

January 28, 2021

Rev. Kurt Van Fossan  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1000 Pioneer Road  
Delta, Colorado 81416

Dear Members of Redeemer Lutheran Church,

God is faithful. As He promised, God has blessed His Word! It has not returned to Him empty but has gathered by the Holy Spirit's power, a congregation of forgiven sinners at Redeemer Lutheran Church for 75 years. Today and always your congregation joins in raising a mighty song of praise and thanks to Him for His faithfulness.

From Easter evening, the Church has prayed: "Abide with us, Lord." And abide He has. He has made His dwelling among you as He washed away your sins in the waters of Holy Baptism. He has made His dwelling among you as His saving Words sounded forth and were heard, rejoiced in, and treasured. He has made His dwelling among you as He has caused his Gospel to be preached to you in order to nurture and strengthen your faith. He has made His dwelling among you as His holy absolution wiped out your sin and His body and blood imparted to you a share in His own divine life. "Abide with us, Lord" the Church prays, and the Lord of the Church answers: "I have and I will."

Whenever an anniversary rolls around, it provides a wonderful opportunity to look back and offer thanks for the blessings that God so richly bestows on and through His Church. As you think back on the history of your congregation, you will be able to thank the Lord not only for the blessings all churches share in common (of His abiding presence) but also for the unique blessings of your own parish family. God never does the same thing twice, and so no congregation is ever exactly the same. Just like each of you is a unique child of God, so each congregation witnesses to God's grace in the way that only it can.

Know, beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, that your fellow members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod celebrate this anniversary with you, joining you in giving thanks to the Lord of the Church for your community of faith and asking with you His great blessing upon Redeemer Lutheran Church in the days to come.

In Jesus, our living and reigning Lord,

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

