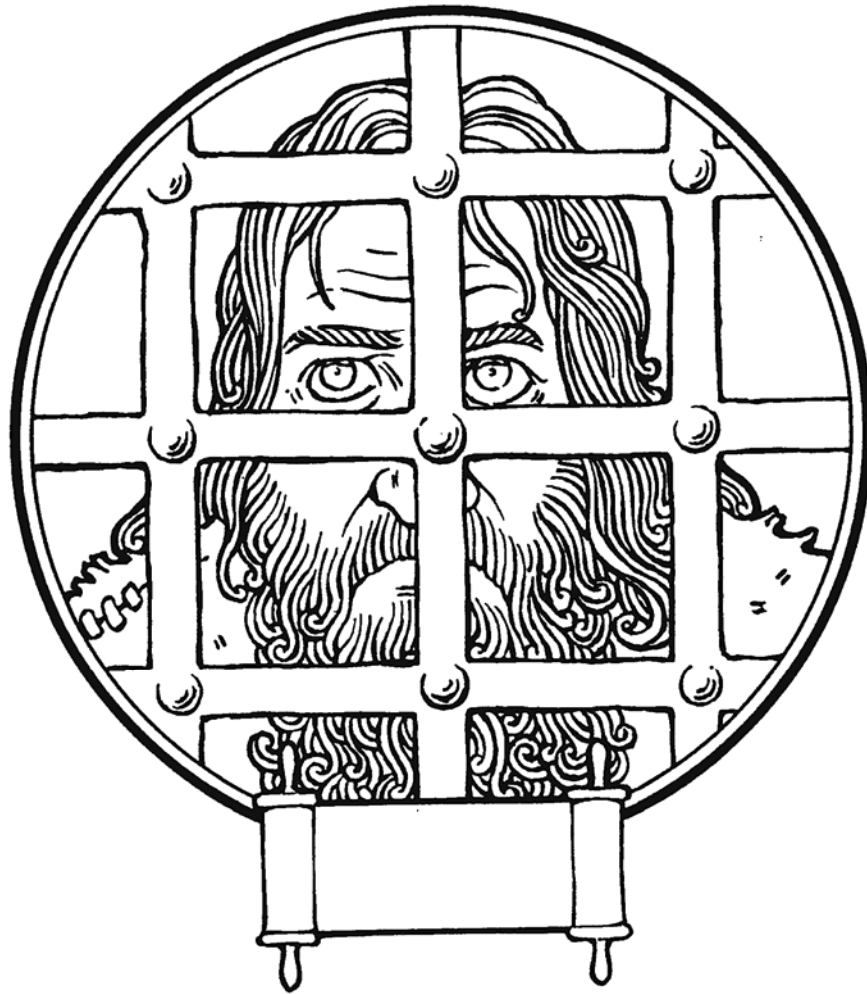


# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent

December 16, 2007



## Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223

[www.wrtc.com/lcms](http://www.wrtc.com/lcms)

## DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Three

### Hymn of Invocation

# 334 (st. 1-4)

### Confession & Absolution

p. 184

### Introit

Rejoice in the Lord always;

**again I will say, Rejoice.**

I will hope continually

**and will praise you yet more and more.**

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts,  
of your deeds of salvation all the day,

**for their number is past my knowledge.**

With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;

**I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.**

O God, from my youth you have taught me,

**and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.**

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

**until I proclaim your might to another generation,  
your power to all those to come.**

**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.**

Rejoice in the Lord always;

**again I will say, Rejoice.**

### Kyrie

p. 186

*Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent*

### Salutation & Collect

p. 189

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10 (ESV)

- [1] The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
- [2] it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.
- [3] Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.
- [4] Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."
- [5] Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
- [6] then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
- [7] the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
- [8] And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
- [9] No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.
- [10] And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

## Gradual

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

Behold, your king is coming to you;

**righteous and having salvation.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

## Epistle Reading

James 5:7-11 (ESV)

[7] Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

[8] You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

[9] Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

[10] As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

[11] Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

**“Alleluia”**

p. 190

## Holy Gospel

St. Matthew 11:2-15 (ESV)

[2] Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by His disciples

[3] and said to Him, "Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?"

[4] And Jesus answered them, "*Go and tell John what you hear and see:*

*[5] the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.*

*[6] And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me."*

[7] As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "*What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?*

*[8] What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.*

*[9] What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.*

*[10] This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send My messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'*

*[11] Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.*

*[12] From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force.*

*[13] For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John,*

*[14] and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.*

*[15] He who has ears to hear, let him hear.*

**Apostles' Creed** p. 192

**Hymn of the Day** # 345

**Sermon** "He Will Come and Save You"

**Offertory** p. 192

**Offering**

**Prayer of the Church**

**Service of the Sacrament** p. 194

**Distribution Hymns** # 636, 818

**Nunc Dimittis** p. 199

**Thanksgiving** p. 200

**Benedicamus and Benediction** p. 201

**Closing Hymn** # 349

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,**



+ Our sick and recovering: Amanda Bauer, Craig Schaan,  
Bob Schriefer & Alex Woroniecki.

**Welcome to worship** in the season of Advent, the time of the church year which prepares us to welcome our King, Jesus, at His birth. We prepare by repenting, being sorrowful for our sin and believing in Christ for forgiveness. Our sin was the reason Jesus was conceived, born, suffered, crucified, and died. As we mourn our sin, our hearts look forward to the joy of Christmas, when our King comes to save us from all the threatening perils of sin. Visitors please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!



**LYF Gift Basket Silent Auction** ends today at 9:00 a.m. Following services gift baskets may be taken home. Please make checks payable to LYF. Thanks to all of you who took part in making this a huge success again this year.

**Today in Sunday School**, the children study Luke 1:57-80, the story of John's birth. Zechariah spoke God's Word announcing that this baby, John, would give people knowledge of salvation in the forgiveness of sins. God speaks through His holy Word to give me knowledge of salvation and forgiveness through Jesus, His Son. In your family discussions, talk about how sin causes us to doubt and fear, but God's Word gives us reassurance. And, just as God provided John back then to preach forgiveness and the message of Christ Jesus, the Savior, He provides us today with faithful preachers to point us to the Savior from sin, death, and the devil.

**The Psalms of Advent:** Please join us for Bible class this morning as we continue our study how the saints of old used the Psalms, the "hymnal" of the Old Testament, to confess their longing and hope for their deliverance in the coming Messiah.

**Children's Christmas Program** practice continues this morning from 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. There will be practice this Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, from 4:15 – 5:15 p.m. for all children in the program. The Children's Christmas Program is Christmas Eve, 7:00 p.m.

**Poinsettia order forms** are due to Vicky Yeager today. You may also purchase your own flower and have it placed at the altar by filling out a form with a notation that you are bringing the plant yourself.



**Registration forms and deposits** are due today for the Higher Things Amen 2008 gathering. Information and registration forms are available online at [www.amen2008.org](http://www.amen2008.org).

**LYF Progressive Supper:** Anyone attending the Progressive Supper please meet at the Church at 5:00 p.m.

**There** will be no Bible Class on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Council members**, please remember our meeting Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

**"Jesus Born For Us"** is the theme of our mid-week Advent services. Our Advent services continue this Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. This week's soup and sandwich supper will be served by the Elders and the Council beginning at 5:30 p.m.



**Understanding Memory Loss:** A free community education workshop on Alzheimer's will be held on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. at the new Knife River Care Center Activity Room. More information is posted on the bulletin board in the social hall.

**Christmas Day Worship** will be at 10:00 a.m. Please make this change on your calendar.



**Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance**  
Worship: 138    Offering: \$2,589.25

"Ready-Set-Come!" Who are God's watchful and wise stewards? They are people of God who work faithfully and patiently knowing that their works of love will bear much fruit in due time just as the farmer who does his work and then patiently waits for God's blessing on the harvest.

## + This Week at Concordia +

|           |                |                                                                       |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Today     | 9:00 AM        | Divine Service                                                        |
|           | 10:15 AM       | Sunday School/Bible Class                                             |
|           | 10:45-11:45 AM | Program Practice                                                      |
|           | 5:00-8:00 PM   | LYF Progressive Supper & Caroling                                     |
| Monday    | 6:45 PM        | Handbell Choir @ High School Choir<br>Concert at Zion Lutheran Church |
| Tuesday   | 7:00 PM        | Council Meeting                                                       |
| Wednesday | 4:15-5:15 PM   | Program Practice                                                      |
|           | 5:30 PM        | Soup & Sandwiches - Elders & Council                                  |
|           | 6:00 PM        | Chime Practice                                                        |
|           | 6:30 PM        | Wednesday School                                                      |
|           | 7:30 PM        | Advent Worship                                                        |
|           | 8:15 PM        | Handbell Practice                                                     |
| Saturday  | 2:00-4:00 PM   | Ivan Herrmann Open House                                              |
| Sunday    | 9:00 a.m.      | Divine Service                                                        |
|           | 10:15 a.m.     | Sunday School/Bible Class                                             |
|           | 10:45-11:45 AM | Program Practice                                                      |
|           | 5:00 p.m.      | LYF Progressive Supper & Caroling                                     |

### Church Office Hours

**Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

revheller@westriv.com

concordiasecretary@westriv.com



*Thank you for filling out a Record of Friendship Card this morning.*

*We record both worship and Communion attendance.*

*Place completed card in collection plate or hand to an usher.*