

4th Sunday in Advent

December 23, 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

DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Three

Hymn of Invocation

357 (st. 1-3)

Confession & Absolution

p. 184

Introit

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

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.

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.

Kyrie

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Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent

Salutation & Collect

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Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-17 (ESV)

[10] Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz,

[11] "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven."

[12] But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test."

[13] And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also?"

[14] Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

[15] He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

[16] For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted.

[17] The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

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

Romans 1:1-7 (ESV)

[1] Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

[2] which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,

[3] concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh

[4] and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

[5] through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,

[6] including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

[7] To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

“Alleluia”

p. 190

Holy Gospel

St. Matthew 1:18-25 (ESV)

[18] Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

[19] And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

[20] But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

[21] She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

[22] All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

[23] "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

[24] When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,

[25] but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called His name Jesus.

Nicene Creed

p. 191

Hymn of the Day

357 (st. 4-7)

Sermon

“The Lord Himself Will Give You a Sign”

Offertory

p. 192

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

p. 194

Distribution Hymns # 389, 386

Nunc Dimittis p. 199

Thanksgiving p. 200

Benedicamus and Benediction p. 201

Closing Hymn # 361

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, Melwon Huber,
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!



Special Music: "Ring the Bells" will be sung, accompanied by bells and piano, following the Gradual.

Today in Sunday School, the children study the birth of Jesus as recorded in Luke 2. A Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord! As a family, read Luke 2:1-20 together, and talk about the details of Christ's birth. Talk about how our sin causes us to fear God like the shepherds did. Focus

on the fact that God's Son, Jesus, takes away our fears and offers us true peace, rescuing us from sin and death.

Please join us for coffee and fellowship following worship this morning.

Children's Christmas Program is Christmas Eve, 7:00 p.m. Please join us as the children proclaim our Savior's birth in verse and song.



Christmas Day worship will be at 10:00 a.m. This is a change to the December calendar.

There will be no Sunday School or Bible Class on Sunday, December 30th. Sunday School and Bible Class will resume Sunday, January 6th.

The Church office will be closed December 26 – January 2. In case of emergency, please call the parsonage, 873-4223, or Myron Hafner, 873-5103.

A surprise 80th birthday open house will be held at the Church for Barney Baszler on Sunday, December 30th, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Ray Sorge would like to say “Thank You” to the following people for making the Children's Shopping Spree a huge success again this year: Krisit & Ben Stevens, Samantha Johnson, Nona & Katlyn Blaisdell, Link Reinhiller, Bernie Keller and Lorraine Sorge. Fourteen children were taken shopping and treated to pizza and ice cream.

A great big “Thank You” to Jamey & Tracy Backus, Lyle & Vicky Yeager and Terence & Connie Schmidt who invited the LYF members into their homes for the Progressive Dinner last Sunday evening. Also **“Thank You”** to the LYF members who attended and sang Christmas Carols.

The deadline for information for the January newsletter and calendar is Thursday, January 3rd. Please have all information turned into the church office by 9:00 a.m.



January greeters are needed. The 2008 greeters list is posted on the bulletin board in the social hall.



Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 172 Offering: \$2,586.25

"Ready-Set-Come!" Who are God's watchful and wise stewards? They are the people of God who by God's grace live in obedience to God's will to demonstrate their faith and love through Christian acts of loving and giving.

+ This Week at Concordia +

Today	9:00 AM	Divine Service
	10:15 AM	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:45-11:45 AM	Program Practice
Monday	7:00 PM	Children's Christmas Program
Tuesday	10:00 AM	Christmas Day Worship
Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship Service
	2:00-4:00 PM	Open House for Barney Baszler



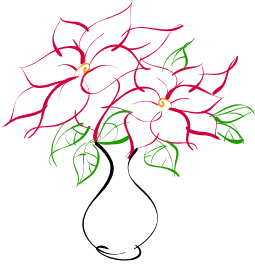
Church Office Hours

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.*



Poinsettias for the Altar

Given By:

Neal & Vonnice Reinhardt & Family

Glenn Renner Family

Kim & Ken Senske

Given By:

Concordia Bell & Chime Choirs

Cliff & Marion Ferebee

Marv & Lori Kuschel

Kent & Mary Jo Larson

Neal & Vonnice Reinhardt & Family

Ray & Lorraine Sorge

Larry & Denise Walker

Blake & Cheryl Wiedrich

In Memory Of:

*Eddie & Esther Reinhardt
Valerie Morast*

*Otto Renner
Sarah Rohde*

Baby Dawson

In Honor Of:

*Cindy Peterson, our wonderful
director*

Our family

*Our family,
Mark, Mike, Matt & families*

Riley Kummer, our granddaughter

Walter & Wilma Morast

*Tremaine Sorge, Wyatt Sorge
Zander Johnson*

*Nick, Leah & Peyton Walker
Laura Walker*

*Our children,
Greg, Steph, Jason, Lauren &
Mike
Our grandchildren,*

