

3rd

S
U
N
D
A
Y

I
N

A
D
V
E
N
T

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 14, 2008



*"Behold, I send My messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you".*

[Matthew 11:10 b]

DIVINE SERVICE Setting Three

Hymn of Invocation # 345

Confession & Absolution p. 184

Introit

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
 and grant us your salvation.

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
 **for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
 but let them not turn back to folly.**

Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
 that glory may dwell in our land.

Yes, the Lord will give what is good,
 and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness will go before him
 and make his footsteps a way.

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
 and grant us your salvation.

Gloria Patri p. 186

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: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (ESV)

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give

them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

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: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (ESV)

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

“Alleluia”

p. 190

Holy Gospel: St. John 1:6-8, 19-28 (ESV)

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, even He who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Nicene Creed p. 191

Hymn of the Day # 346

Sermon: *"He Came to Bear Witness About the Light"*

Offertory p. 192

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P Wrap us in Your steadfast love,
C and grant us Your Salvation.

Service of the Sacrament p. 194

Distribution Hymns # 376, 636

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: Khye Barnick, Julius Buchmann, Norma (Giese) Curry (Evelyn Eisenbeis' sister), Ruth Rueb, Dan Weidner, Brenda Weigum, Sharon Weigum, & Alex Woroniecki.

Our Stewardship of Worship and Attendance

Worship: 126 Offering: \$3,177.25

**WE AFFIRM GOD'S POWER TO DO EXTRAORDINARY
THINGS THROUGH VERY ORDINARY PEOPLE**

WE CAN RELY ON GOD.

*"My God shall supply all my needs according to His riches
in glory by Christ Jesus."*

[Philippians 4:19]

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: After the Gradual, the Hand Chime Choir will ring “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” and during the offering, the Hand Bell Choir will ring “What Child Is This.”

Today in Sunday School students study the story “An Angel Visits Joseph.” Just as the angel proclaimed to Joseph that Mary would bear an infant who is the Son of God, the Savior, so God proclaimed to us in His Word that this same Jesus is our Savior from sin and death. Parents could ask, *“What important message did the angel give Joseph? What important message do we hear in God’s Word?”*

Matt & Angie Mission Update: Please join us following worship for coffee, Kool-Aid, and bars. Not only is this a good reminder to keep Matt, Angie, and family in your prayers, but we will hear a mission update of their work. There will be a free-will offering.



“Away in a Manger”: This much-loved Christmas hymn will provide the theme of our mid-week Advent worship services and our Children’s Christmas Program. Our Advent services continue this Wednesday, December 17th, 7:30 PM. This week’s soup and sandwich supper will be served by the LYF beginning at 5:30 PM. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the social hall to sign up to bring soup or sandwiches.

The Children’s Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 21st, 6:00 PM. Practice continues this morning from 11:00 AM—12:00 PM.

Board of Lay Ministry: Please remember our meeting, Monday December 15th, 6:30 PM. Please note the time change!



The last day to order poinsettias is Monday, December 15th. Order forms are on the table in the social hall. Please fill out a form if you wish to order poinsettias and return to Vicky Yeager. 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. Please have it at Church by December 20th.

LWML will be collecting non-perishable Christmas dinner food items for Knife River Care Center because the food pantry is very low at this time of the year. If you wish to donate items please leave them on the table in the entryway by Monday, December 15th in order to deliver the items on time for the Christmas baskets.



LYF Gift Basket Silent Auction: The gift baskets are on display in the social hall. This is a fundraiser for our LYF and will make wonderful Christmas gifts. Bidding will continue until December 21st following worship. If you have any questions, please talk to Glenn or Carla Renner, 948-2534.

Please take a few minutes to read over the information Matt & Angie sent regarding their mission work and also Gateway Global, a business they started which specializes in English teaching, accounting services and trade. The forms are on the bulletin board in the social hall.

This Week at Concordia +

Today	7:30 AM	Worship @ Glen Ullin
	9:30 AM	Divine Service
	10:30 AM	Sunday School/Mission Update
	11:00 – 12:00 PM	Program Practice
Monday	6:30 PM	Board of Lay Ministry
Tuesday	2:00 PM	Bible Class
Wednesday	5:30 PM	Soup/Sandwich-LYF
	6:00 PM	Chime Practice
	6:30 PM	Wednesday School
	7:30 PM	Advent Worship
	8:15 PM	Bell Practice
Thursday	1:00 PM	Pastor @ Marion Manor (GU)
	6:00 PM	Advent Worship @ Glen Ullin
Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Service
	10:30 AM	Sunday School/Bible Class
	11:00 – 12:00 PM	Program Practice
	6:00 PM	Children's Christmas Program

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 AM—12:30 PM

Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223

revheller@westriv.com — concordiasecretary@westriv.com

Website: www.concordiabeulah.org

*Please remember to fill out a Record of Fellowship Card for each member attending Worship or Communing this morning.
Place completed cards in the collection plate.*