# Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod 801 Beacon Lane Beulah, North Dakota Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor December 7, 2014

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent



Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

[Luke 3:4b, 6]

**DIVINE SERVICE** Setting Three

Hymn of Invocation # 344

Confession & Absolution p. 184

#### Introit

Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;

it took deep root and filled the land.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Gloria Patri p. 186

**Kyrie** p. 186

Gloria In Excelsis: omitted during Advent

## Salutation & Collect p. 189

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-11 (ESV)

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

#### 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: 2 Peter 3:8-14 (ESV)

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly

bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

"Alleluia" p. 190

Holy Gospel: St. Mark 1:1-8 (ESV)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight."

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Nicene Creed p. 191

Hymn of the Day # 347

**Sermon** Double For All Your Sins

**Offertory** p. 192

Offering

**Prayer of the Church** 

Service of the Sacrament p. 194

**Distribution Hymns** # 334 (st. 1-4), 386, 367

Nunc Dimittis p. 199

**Thanksgiving** p. 200

Benedicamus and Benediction p. 201

Closing Hymn # 352

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,

† Esther Bornemann, Judy Jose, Avery Sukut (cousin of Amy Bieber), & Lowell Zuther (brother of Clare Renner);

† Our nursing home residents, that God would keep them under His gracious care.

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 Jesus 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!

**Augsburg Confession:** Please join us for Bible class this morning as we conclude our study of the Augsburg Confession.



Christmas cards are for sale in the social hall.

"Great Expectations" is the theme of our mid-week Advent services. Our mid-week services begin this Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm. Please join us for soup and sandwiches at 5:30 pm served by the Elders & LYF.

Children's Shopping Spree is Saturday, December 20th,



9:00 am to 12:00 noon. There is a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help with shopping, wrapping gifts, and serving the noon meal. Donations of wrapping supplies are appreciated. If you have any questions, please talk to Ray Sorge, 873-7682.

**LWML Advent brunch** is Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, following the Children's Christmas Program. Everyone is invited to join us!

LYF Gift Basket Silent Auction: Gift baskets are on



display in the social hall. Bidding has begun and will continue until Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. The proceeds will begin the 2016 National Youth Gathering fundraising for those youth planning on attending the gathering in New Orleans.

**Poinsettias** for the altar can be brought at any time. They will be placed at the altar as soon as they are received. If you have any questions call Vicky Yeager, 873-5647.



The December calendar, birthday and anniversary sheet and the October council minutes are in the black stacking trays in the social hall.



Stewardship of Offerings & Attendance
Attendance: 126 Offerings: \$3,095.25

1 Corinthians 1:7 "...so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ." The Lord sees to it that we do not lack any gift – He has given us every spiritual blessing in Christ as well as every earthly need as well. He is the Provider. And we can trust Him to always provide for us in every way.

### † This Week at Concordia †

Sunday	8:30 am 9:30 am	Divine Service Bible Class/Program Practice/ LYF Meeting
	11:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin
Monday	10:00 am	Circuit Pastors @ Beulah
Tuesday	10:15 am	KRCC Communion
Wednesday	3:30 pm 4:30 pm 5:30 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Catechism 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Catechism Soup/Sandwiches - Elders & LYF
	6:30 pm 7:15 pm	Advent Service Bell Practice
Thursday	7:00 pm	Advent Service @ Glen Ullin
Sunday	8:30 am 9:30 am <i>11:00 am</i>	Divine Service Program Practice Worship @ Glen Ullin

# 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 use a pew card to record your worship and/or Communion attendance this morning.