

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 11, 2016

3rd Sunday in Advent



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

Matthew 11:10b

Divine Service Setting Three

Hymn of Invocation # 346

Holy Baptism p. 268

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.**

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.

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 Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10 (ESV)

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert
shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; 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.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. 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."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; 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; 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. 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. 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. 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)

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. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 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.

Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 11:2-15 (ESV)

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by His disciples and said to Him, "Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "*Go and tell John what you hear and see: 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. And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me.*"

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? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, " 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face who will prepare your way before you.'*"

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. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Hymn of the Day # 345

Sermon: The Rose Colored Candle

Offertory p. 192

Offering

Reception of New Members

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament p. 194

Distribution Hymns # 350, 366, 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 & recovering: Tom Bornemann, Elsie Buchmann, Buck Follis (father of Kim Senske), Anna Pischel, Cheryl Marsh (daughter of Ardella Halter), Avery Sukut (cousin of Bieber), Alvin Weidner, & Brenda Weigum;

† Robert, Krystal, Tracey, Michelle, & Casey, as they become members of Concordia;

† Milly McKenzie, as she celebrates her 90th birthday;

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

Welcome to worship on Gaudete Sunday. “Gaudete” means “rejoice.” This Sunday receives its name from our Introit, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.” In the somber and repentant mood of Advent, we rejoice this day in the good news that our Savior Christ is coming to bring us comfort and hope through the forgiveness of sins. The rose candle burning on our Advent wreath reminds us that God always turns our sorrow to joy. Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

Today, we welcome Robert Baker, Krystal Bornemann, Tracey Keller, Michelle Schlender, & Casey Voigt to the family of Concordia. Having been instructed in the Six Chief Parts of Christian doctrine, they today confess their faith in Christ Jesus and their desire to be a member of this Church. “Whosoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 10:32).



Unwrapping the Gifts is the theme of our mid-week Advent Services. Please join us for worship this Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 pm. Soup and sandwiches will be served before worship, beginning at 5:30 pm.

Council Members, we will meet Wednesday, December 14, after our Advent service.



The Children’s Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 18, 8:30 am.

Family Advent Brunch will follow the Christmas program next Sunday, December 18th. Everyone is invited to join us. Ham & buns will be purchased with money from Thrivent and side dishes and desserts will be potluck. A free will offering will be taken for Josh Reber, our adopted Seminary student.

Christmas cards are on sale in the social hall. They are \$4.00 per box. Please give the money to Tina Heller. Checks should be made out to LWML.

Weather Cancellation: In the event that worship or other activities need to be canceled, especially because of weather, please check the church's website, www.concordiabeulah.org. We will also send an email notification when worship is canceled for those members who have provided the church office with a working email address and will post the cancellation on Facebook. You should also be able to call the church for information on cancellations.



Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 110 Offerings: \$3,090.50

“This is he of whom it is written, “ Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.” John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus’ ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out his disciples to preach “repentance and the forgiveness of sins.” We never outgrow the need for repentance – for examining our lives, turning away from our pet sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

† This Week at Concordia †

- Sunday 8:30 am Divine Service
 9:30 am Program Practice
 11:00 am *Worship @ Glen Ullin*
- Tuesday 10:15 am Holy Communion @ Knife River
 Care Center
- Wednesday 4:30 pm Catechism
 5:30 pm Soup/Sandwiches - Council
 6:30 pm Advent Service
 7:15 pm Council Meeting
 7:15 pm Chime Practice
 7:45 pm Bell Practice
- Thursday 2:30 pm *Pastor @ Marian Manor,
 Glen Ullin*
- Sunday 8:30 am Children's Christmas Program
 9:30 am Family Advent Brunch
 2:30 pm Pastor @ Knife River Care
 Center

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM—12:00 PM

Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223

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*Please use a pew card to record your Church and/or
Communion attendance this morning.*