

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 4, 2016

2nd 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

poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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 15:4-13 (ESV)

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

"Alleluia"

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Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight."

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will clear His threshing floor and gather His wheat into the barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire."

Nicene Creed

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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.

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 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!

Adult Instruction class will meet after worship this morning.

Unwrapping the Gifts is the theme of our mid-week Advent Services. Please join us for worship this Wednesday, December 7, 6:30 pm. Soup and sandwiches will be served before worship, beginning at 5:30 pm.



The Children's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 18, 8:30 am. Please join us for Family Advent Brunch following the program.

"Thank You" to all who donated food and other items for our law enforcement officers. We would also like to thank all who helped decorated the Church for Advent and Christmas.

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.



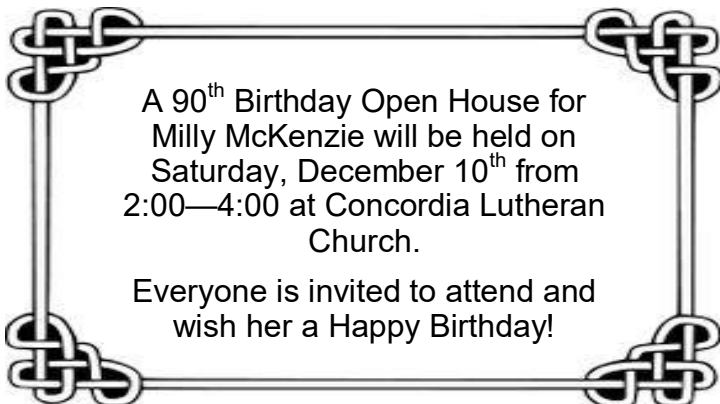
Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 125 Offerings: \$2,599.50

“In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”” 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.

WE ARE THE NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT – I don’t have to tell you that December is a very busy month! There can be a lot of excitement and joy during this wonderful time of year. However, allow me to encourage you first and foremost to be in the Word. Your life will most benefit from the Divine Service, the Advent Midweek Services, and the Children’s Christmas Service. What a blessing it is to receive the gifts of the Newborn Christ in His sanctuary!

Pastor Baneck, DP



† This Week at Concordia †

Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service
	9:30 am	Program Practice/Adult Instruction
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
Monday	10:00 am	Circuit Pastors @ Mandan
	7:00 pm	Adult Instruction
Tuesday	2:00 pm	Bible Class
	5:30 pm	Angel Tree Gift Wrapping Party
Wednesday	4:30 pm	Catechism
	5:30 pm	Soup/Sandwiches - Elders & LYF
	6:30 pm	Advent Service
	7:15 pm	Lay Ministry
	7:15 pm	Chime Practice
	7:45 pm	Bell Practice
Thursday	7:00 pm	<i>Advent @ Glen Ullin</i>
Saturday	2-4:00 pm	Open House for Milly McKenzie's 90th Birthday
Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service
	9:30 am	Program Practice/Bible Class
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM—12:00 PM

Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223

revheller@westriv.com

concordiasecretary@westriv.com

Website: www.concordiabeulah.org