

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 22, 2019

4th Sunday in Advent



*"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,
and they shall call His name Immanuel."*

Matthew 1:23a

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 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

p. 186

Gloria In Excelsis

omitted during Advent

Salutation & Collect

p. 189

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)

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven."

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

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

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

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

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

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)

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 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, 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, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

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)

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

her quietly. 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. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called His name Jesus.

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|---|-----------------|
| Nicene Creed | p. 191 |
| Hymn of the Day | # 357 (st. 4-7) |
| Sermon: A Christmas Card For You | |
| Offertory | p. 192 |
| Offering | |
| Prayer of the Church | |
| Service of the Sacrament | p. 194 |
| Distribution Hymns | # 376, 374, 367 |
| 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.

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!



Christmas Program: Please join us for the Children's Christmas Program on Christmas Eve, 5:00 pm.



Poinsettias: You are welcome to bring poinsettias any time during Advent. Put your name on them if you would like them after the holidays.

Christmas cards are for sale in the social hall. They are \$4 per box. Please make check out to LWML and give the money to Tina Heller.

The Church office will be closed Thursday, December 26 and Friday, December 27. If you need to contact Pastor Heller, please call the parsonage, 873-4223.



The 2020 offering envelopes are in your mailboxes this morning.

2020 Greeters are needed. A new sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.



In our thoughts and prayers,
† Kurt Gillig, Lori Kuschel and
Julie Westemeier.

**North Dakota District LCMS
Message in the Pew
December 2019**

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Arie Tami Vicki Blenda Ed Marie

Congregations' Status

St. Peter, Belfield and Redeemer, Grassy Butte: vacancy (served by Rev. Anthony Ahrendt.)

Trinity, Tolley: vacancy (served by Rev. Joel Brandvold.)

Zion, Claire City: A call has been extended with Zion, Brown Valley, MN to Rev. Paul Weisenborn, Bunceton, MO (served by Minnesota North District.)

Your servant in Christ,

ND District President

Rev. Arie Bertsch

Pastors and DCE'S

Rev. Mark Chepulis, Our Savior, Cavalier, St. Paul, St. Thomas and Redeemer, Langdon has returned a call to Shepherd of the Valley, Salmon ID.

Rev. Sean Daenzer, Peace, Barney and Trinity, Great Bend, has accepted the call to serve as Director of Worship for the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and chaplain at its headquarters in St. Louis, MO.

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LCMS
Financial Information
November 2019

INCOME

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|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Congregational Mission Giving | \$88,339.29 |
| Synodical Pledge (35%) | (22,676.03) |
| Other Gifts | 688.44 |

Total left for District Missions, Expenses **\$42,801.06**

EXPENSES:

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|--|-------------|
| Local Missions and Committee Activities: (Includes Wittenberg Chapel, Life Skills & Transition Center, Deaf Ministry, Youth) | \$11,245.00 |
| Congregational Support (Includes General Operations, District President, Business Manager, Board of Directors) | 35,212.57 |
| 1-1-1 Mission Giving | (10.41) |
| Current gifts given for these missions | (1,978.00) |
| International Missions | |
| Christ's Care for Children – Kenya (\$10,000) | 0.00 |
| Chile Mission (\$25,000) | 0.00 |

(These missions were voted on by the District Convention.

They will be paid quarterly as funds are available)

Net Expenses **\$44,469.16**

NET OPERATING LOSS FOR NOV. 2019 **(\$1,668.10)**

Funds Given in the Past used for Current Expenses **\$400.00**

YTD NET LOSS **(\$18,807.38)**

Congregational giving was below average for November and brings the YTD giving to about \$10,000 less than average for this time of year. A line has been added in for 1-1-1 mission giving. Funds have started to come in! Gifts from individuals and congregations designated for our international missions are sent on at the end of each fiscal quarter. Those amounts are not included in income or expense totals. YTD designated gifts for international missions as of November 30:

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|------------------------------------|------------|
| Christ's Care for Children – Kenya | \$8,372.75 |
| Chile Partnership | \$5,071.83 |

† This Week at Concordia †

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| Sunday | 8:00 am | <i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i> |
| | 10:00 am | Divine Service |
| | 11:00 am | Sunday School/Program Practice |

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| Tuesday | Christmas Eve | |
| | 5:00 pm | Children's Christmas Program |

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|--------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday | 8:00 am | <i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i> |
| | 10:00 am | Divine Service |

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



Stewardship of Offerings & Attendance

Attendance: 115 Offerings: \$4,852.00

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

Matthew 1:21

Jesus has done what our good works could never do. He has saved us from our sins, paid our debt, set us free. How can we not give thanks to Him with lives of generosity and godliness? What God's Law could not do – truly motivate us to truly good works – Jesus' love has done!

