

# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 20, 2020

4<sup>th</sup> 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

Confession & Absolution

p. 184

### Introit

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

**let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.**

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

**In them he has set a tent for the sun,**

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,

**and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.**

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,

**and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

**let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.**

Kyrie

p. 186

**Gloria in Excelsis** *is 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:** 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 (ESV)

Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. . . .

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

### **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 16:25-27 (ESV)**

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

“**Alleluia**”

p. 190

**Holy Gospel: St. Luke 1:26-38 (ESV)**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

<b>Nicene Creed</b>	p. 191
<b>Hymn of the Day</b>	# 370
<b>Sermon</b>	
<b>Offertory</b>	p. 192
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>Prayer of the Church</b>	
<b>Service of the Sacrament</b>	p. 194
<b>Distribution Hymns</b>	# 368, 366, 392
<b>Nunc Dimittis</b>	p. 199
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	p. 200
<b>Benedicamus and Benediction</b>	p. 201
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	# 387

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 Jesus for forgiveness. Our sin was the reason Jesus was conceived, born, suffered, was 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!

**It has so pleased God** in His wise grace to call from this vale of tears unto Himself in heaven the soul of our dearest sister in the Christian faith, Lorraine Scherer. Christian Burial was December 16, 2020. *Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them" (Re 14:13).*

**Information Meeting:** The Church Council has approved the purchase of camera and equipment that will enhance our ability to live stream services and other Church activities. We will have an informational meeting this morning following worship to let you know what is being purchased and how we envision using it for the mission and ministry of



Concordia.

**Please join us** for worship as we celebrate our Savior's birth on Christmas Eve, 6:30 pm.



**Poinsettias:** For Christmas, the congregation will be purchasing poinsettias to adorn the chancel. If you would like to donate to help with the expense of the poinsettias, please clearly mark your donation so that it can be put towards buying them.

Donations of poinsettia plants are also welcome.

**Donations** of anything you want to bring for Women's Action & Resource Center will be collected during December.

**The 2021 offering envelopes** are in your mailboxes this morning.

**Portals of Prayer:** The new *Portals of Prayer* for January-March, 2021, are on the table in the social hall.



**In our thoughts and prayers,**

† Sandi Femling, recovering from surgery;

† The family of Lorraine Scherer, as they mourn her death.

**† This Week at Concordia †**

Sunday	8:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
	10:00 am	Divine Service
	11:00 am	Information Meeting
Thursday	6:30 pm	Christmas Service
Friday	9:00 am	<i>Christmas Service @ Glen Ullin</i>
Sunday	8:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
	10:00 am	Divine Service

**Stewardship of Offerings & Attendance**

Attendance: 88 Offerings: \$2,630.00

*“But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan. . .”  
2 Samuel 7:4*

Nathan thought David’s idea was great, so he blessed it with the Lord’s name. But, later that night, the Word of the Lord set him straight. The Word of the Lord must be the basis for what we think, say, and do in God’s Kingdom – not our own desires or whims.



**1-1-1 MISSION GIVING**  
NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT  
LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD

1-1-1 Mission Giving  
1 Dollar  
1 Baptized Member  
1 Week, every week

Offering Box and informational pamphlets are available in the narthex.

**Church Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
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Parsonage: 873-4223  
revheller@westriv.com  
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