

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

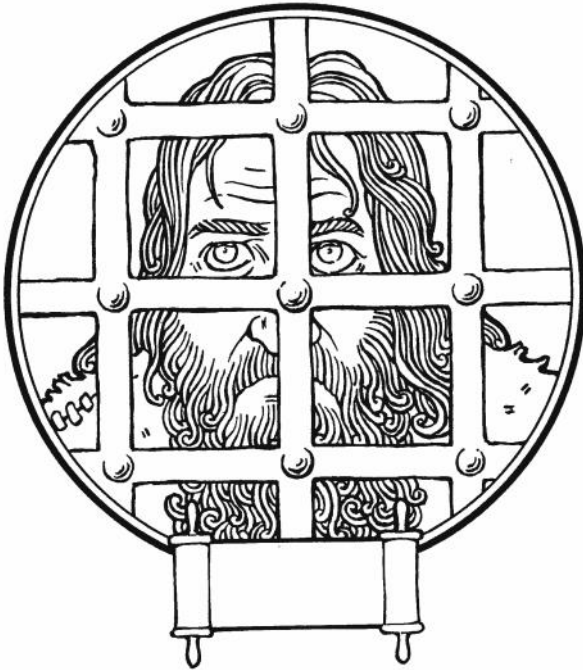
801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 11, 2022

3rd Sunday in Advent



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

Matthew 11:10b

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

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!

Divine Service

Setting Three

Hymn of Invocation

346

Confession & Absolution

p. 184

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.

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.

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.

Kyrie

p. 186

Gloria in Excelsis: *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

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

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.

“Alleluia”

p. 190

Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 11:2-15

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.”

Nicene Creed	p. 191
Hymn of the Day	# 345
Sermon	Reason to Rejoice
Offertory	p. 192
Offering	
Prayer of the Church	
Service of the Sacrament	p. 194
Distribution Hymns	# 366, 361, 368
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.

Announcements

This Is My Son: Absalom: Good looks and beautiful, flowing hair can only get you so far. They got Absalom, the son of David, caught in a tree and put to death for his rebellion against his own father. Yet despite his rebellion,



David still loved his son and wanted him to live. Our daily thoughts, words, and actions reveal our rebellious hearts against our heavenly Father and King. Yet God desires not the death of the wicked and rebellious, but that we would turn and live. To that end,

God sent forth His Son, the true Son of David, to perfectly obey His Father's will. Through Jesus, the Kingdom is ours forever! Join us as we continue our mid-week worship this Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 PM. Soup and sandwiches will be served by Group 3 at 5:30 PM.

Our Children's Christmas Program is next Sunday, December 18, 10 AM. Following the Children's



Program, join us for our Advent Family potluck. Ham and buns will be furnished by Thrivent Action team funds. Please bring a dish to share. We will have a free will offering for our

Adopted Seminary student, Joseph Greenmyer.

Christmas Cards are for sale on the table in the social hall. They are \$5 per box. Please make check out to "Concordia LWML" and give the money to Tina Heller.

It's time for a new church pictorial directory! Pictures will be taken January 11-14, 2023. Sign-up

**Church
Directory**



sheets are on the bulletin board in the social hall. Members who have their picture taken will receive a free 8x10 picture and also a free church directory. You will also have the opportunity to order additional portraits, if you wish. Pictures will also be taken April 4-5,

2023, if the January dates do not work for you. If you have questions, please talk to Nona Blaisdell, 870-1243.



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance

Worship: 83 Offerings: \$3,417.15

“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.’”

Isaiah 35:4

The return of our Lord at the Last Day is a cause of joy and anticipation for us believers. We know our Lord and His love, and we look forward to His Second Advent. Indeed, how we live our lives here and now flows from our certain hope of resurrection and eternal life.

