

# Concordia Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 4, 2022

2<sup>nd</sup> 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*

## ✠ 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**

# 342

**Confession & Absolution**

p. 184

### **Introit**

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;

**make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

Seek the Lord and his strength;

**seek his presence continually!**

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

**his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,**

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

**children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

He is the Lord our God;

**his judgments are in all the earth.**

He remembers his covenant forever,

**the word that he commanded,**

**for a thousand generations.**

**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.**

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;

**make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

**Kyrie**

p. 186

**Gloria in Excelsis:** *omitted during Advent*

## Salutation & Collect

p. 189

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the 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**

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"**

p. 190

**Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 3:1-12**

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."

|                                    |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Nicene Creed</b>                | p. 191                  |
| <b>Hymn of the Day</b>             | # 344                   |
| <b>Sermon</b>                      | Ignore at Your Own Risk |
| <b>Offering</b>                    |                         |
| <b>Offertory</b>                   | p. 192                  |
| <b>Prayer of the Church</b>        |                         |
| <b>Service of the Sacrament</b>    | p. 194                  |
| <b>Distribution Hymns</b>          | # 619, 359, 364         |
| <b>Nunc Dimittis</b>               | p. 199                  |
| <b>Thanksgiving</b>                | p. 200                  |
| <b>Benedicamus and Benediction</b> | p. 201                  |
| <b>Closing Hymn</b>                | # 357 (st. 1-5)         |

! 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: Ishmael:** After years of waiting for God to fulfill His promise of a son, Abraham and Sarah decided to take things into their own hands. Rather than activate God's promise, it kick-started a story of pain and



resentment. Abraham and Sarah were supposed to wait on God's plan and His timing. In His time, God sent them Isaac. Generations later, when the time was right, God sent forth His Son, to a waiting world. Jesus, the true Son of Abraham, makes us all

part of God's family and one of the many sons of Abraham. Join us as we continue our mid-week worship this Wednesday, December 7, 6:30 PM. Soup and sandwiches will be served by Group 2 at 5:30 PM.

**Board of Lay Ministry** will meet this Wednesday, December 7, following the mid-week Advent service.

**Children's Christmas Program:** The Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 18, 10 AM. Join us for our Advent Family potluck following the Christmas Program.

**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.



**Thank you** to those who decorated the Church for Christmas!



**Greeters** are needed for December. Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you are interested.

**"Thank You"** Julie Voigt, Lori Kuschel and Nona Blaisdell for providing cookies, cake and bars during fellowship in November.



## **Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance**

Worship: 75    Offerings: \$2,853.00

*"In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,*

*'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'"*

Matthew 3:1-2

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 for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 24:47). We never outgrow the need for repentance — for examining our lives, turning away from our sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

## † This Week at Concordia †

|           |          |                                |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 8:00 am  | <i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>    |
|           | 9:15 am  | Sunday School                  |
|           | 10:00 am | Divine Service                 |
|           | 11:00 am | Bible Class                    |
| Monday    | 9:30 am  | Circuit Pastors @ Bismarck     |
| Wednesday | 4:00 pm  | Catechism                      |
|           | 5:30 pm  | Soup & Sandwiches –<br>Group 2 |
|           | 6:30 pm  | Advent Service                 |
|           | 7:15 pm  | Board of Lay Ministry          |
| Sunday    | 8:00 am  | <i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>    |
|           | 9:15 am  | Sunday School                  |
|           | 10:00 am | Divine Service                 |
|           | 11:00 am | Bible Class                    |

### Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM—12:00 PM

Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223

[revheller@westriv.com](mailto:revheller@westriv.com)

[concordiasecretary@westriv.com](mailto:concordiasecretary@westriv.com)

Website: [www.concordiabeulah.org](http://www.concordiabeulah.org)



#### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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