

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 14, 2014

3rd Sunday in Advent



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

Matthew 11:10b

they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

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: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (ESV)

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Holy Gospel: St. John 1:6-8, 19-28 (ESV)

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, even He who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Nicene Creed

p. 191

Hymn of the Day

346

Sermon

He Will Surely Do It!

Offertory

p. 192

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

p. 194

Distribution Hymns

387, 364, 636

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.

In our thoughts and prayers,

† Esther Bornemann, Avery Sukut (cousin of Amy Bieber), & Lowell Zuther (brother of Clare Renner).



Stewardship of Offerings & Attendance

Attendance: 180 Offerings: \$4,468.00

“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.” A steward manages the property of the owner for the owner’s purposes. We are stewards of all that God has given us. So we are called to use all that we are and all that we have for God’s purposes. How do we know what these are? Consider your vocations, your callings from God, in the Home, the Church, and Society: what are the roles God has called you to play? And how should you be using the gifts He’s given you to fulfill those roles?

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, 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 cards are for sale in the social hall.

“Great Expectations” is the theme of our mid-week Advent services. Our mid-week services continue this Wednesday, December 17th, 6:30 pm. Please join us for soup and sandwiches at 5:30 pm served by the Council.

Children’s Shopping Spree is Saturday, December 20th, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. There is a sign-up



sheet for volunteers to help with shopping, wrapping gifts, and serving the noon meal. Donations of wrapping supplies are appreciated. If you have any questions, please talk to Ray Sorge, 873-7682.

LWML Advent brunch is Sunday, December 21st, following the Children’s Christmas Program. Everyone is invited to join us!

LYF Gift Basket Silent Auction: Gift baskets are on display in the social hall. Bidding has begun and will continue until Sunday, December 21st. The proceeds will begin the 2016 National Youth Gathering fundraising for those youth planning on attending the gathering in New Orleans.





Poinsettias for the altar can be brought at any time. They will be placed at the altar as soon as they are received. If you have any questions call Vicky Yeager, 873-5647.

The December calendar, birthday and anniversary sheet and the October council minutes are in the black stacking trays in the social hall.

We are the North Dakota District...

The Convention Workbook was mailed out around November 21. The First Today's Business was mailed out this past week. It would be so good for the congregations to schedule an open forum discussion time to discuss the proposed resolutions coming before the convention delegates. The decision of the delegates will affect us all. While the delegates would welcome your input, they are free to vote their conscience.

– President Banek

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

† This Week at Concordia †

Sunday	8:30 am	Divine Service
	9:30 am	Christmas Program Practice
	11:00 am	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>
Tuesday	2:00 pm	Bible Class @ Schoolhouse Apartments
Wednesday	3:30 pm	2 nd Year Catechism
	4:30 pm	3 rd Year Catechism
	5:30 pm	Soup/Sandwiches - Council
	6:30 pm	Advent Service
	7:15 pm	Council Meeting
	7:15 pm	Chime Practice
	7:45 pm	Bell Practice
Thursday	2:30 pm	<i>Pastor @ Marian Manor, Glen Ullin</i>
	6:45 pm	Chime & Bell Choir @ High School Choir Concert, Zion, Beulah
Saturday	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Children's Shopping Spree
Sunday	8:30 am	Children's Christmas Program
	9:30 am	Advent Brunch
	7:00 pm	<i>Worship @ Glen Ullin</i>

Please use a pew card to record your worship and/or Communion attendance this morning.