

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 20, 2015

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*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

361

Confession & Absolution

p. 184

Introit

My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

My mouth derides my enemies,

because I rejoice in your salvation.

There is none holy like the Lord;

**there is none besides you; there is no rock
like our God.**

The barren has borne seven,

but she who has many children is forlorn.

The Lord kills and brings to life;

he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

The Lord makes poor and makes rich;

he brings low and he exalts.

My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Gloria Patri

p. 186

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: Micah 5:2-5a (ESV)

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

And he shall be their peace.

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: Hebrews 10:5-10 (ESV)

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.' "

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

“Alleluia”

p. 190

Holy Gospel: St. Luke 1:39-56 (ESV)

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has looked on the humble estate of His servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to

generation. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to His offspring forever."

And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Apostles' Creed p. 192

Hymn of the Day # 934

Sermon: Upside Down Christmas

Offertory p. 192

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament p. 194

Distribution Hymns # 357, 370, 380

Nunc Dimittis p. 199

Thanksgiving p. 200

Benedicamus and Benediction p. 201

Closing Hymn # 352

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,

† Our sick & recovering: Cami Hafner (wife of Wes Hafner), Donald Kuch (brother-in-law of Leeta Aanderud), Luella Langmack (sister of Walter Morast), Cheryl Marsh (daughter of Ardella Halter), & Avery Sukut (cousin of Amy Bieber).



Stewardship of Offerings & Attendance

Attendance: 146 Offerings: \$3,659.00

“And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” (Luke 1:45 ESV) The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord's own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord's commands in the face of the world's anger and resistance: just as it gave Mary the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.

Welcome to worship this morning 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!



The Children's Christmas program will be on Christmas Eve, 6:00 pm. Practice continues this morning.

Roof Fund Update: Through the kindness of many generous and thoughtful gifts, we currently owe \$1,700 (approximately). Donations are still welcome. Please clearly mark all donations as roof project.

Church Cancellation: In the event that worship or other activities need to be canceled, especially because of weather, please check the church's website, www.concordiabeulah.org. We will also send out an email notification when worship is canceled for those members who have provided the church office with an email address and we will try to post it on Facebook. You should also be able to call the church for information on cancellations.

Offering Envelopes



The 2016 offering envelopes are in your mailboxes this morning. Please take them home with you and begin using January 3, 2016.

2016 Greeters List is also posted on the bulletin board. Please consider being a greeter the month of your choice.

† This Week at Concordia †

- Sunday 8:30 am Divine Service
9:30 am Bible Class/Program Practice
7:00 pm *Worship @ Glen Ullin*
- Wednesday 9:00 am Deadline for January calendar information
- Thursday **Christmas Eve**
8:00 pm Children's Christmas Program
- Friday **Christmas Day**
8:30 am Service of Carols & Readings
- Sunday 8:30 am Divine Service
11:00 am *Worship @ Glen Ullin*
2:30 pm *Pastor @ Knife River Care Center*

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Church: 873-4388 Parsonage: 873-4223
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