## Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod 801 Beacon Lane Beulah, North Dakota Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor December 10, 2017

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]

**DIVINE SERVICE** Setting Three

Hymn of Invocation # 347

Confession & Absolution p. 184

#### Introit

Restore us, O God;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;

it took deep root and filled the land.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Gloria Patri p. 186

**Kyrie** p. 186

Gloria In Excelsis is 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: Isaiah 40:1-11 (ESV)

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

#### 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: 2 Peter 3:8-14 (ESV)

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

"Alleluia" p. 190

Holy Gospel: St. Mark 1:1-8 (ESV)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight."

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Nicene Creed	p. 191
Hymn of the Day	# 344
Sermon	Comfort
Offertory	p. 192
Offering	

**Prayer of the Church** 

Service of the Sacrament p. 194 **Distribution Hymns** # 618, 367, 376 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,

- † Donna Brewer (mother of Krystal Bornemann),
- & Howard Winkler:
- † Our nursing home residents, that God would keep them under His gracious care.

# Our Stewardship of Offerings and Attendance Worship: 138 Offerings: \$3,627.00

"...so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ." The Lord sees to it that we do not lack any gift – He has given us every spiritual blessing in Christ as well as every earthly need. He is the Provider. And we can trust Him to always provide for us in every way.

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!

**Advent:** Our midweek Advent services continue this Wednesday, December 13, 6:30 pm. As we continue looking at the *Solas* of Reformation, our worship will focus on *Sola Gratia:* Only By Grace. Soup and sandwiches will be served at 5:30 pm by the Council.

**Council Members,** please remember our meeting following Advent Services on Wednesday, December 13, 7:15 pm.

**Thank you** to everyone who helped decorate for Christmas!

**Christmas cards** are on sale in the social hall. They are \$4.00 per box. Please give the money to Tina Heller. Checks should be made out to LWML.

### † This Week at Concordia †

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship @ Glen Ullin Divine Service Program Practice/Bible Class
Tuesday	10:15 am	Communion @ Knife River Care Center
Wednesday	3:30 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:15 pm	Catechism Soup/Sandwiches – Council Advent Service Council Meeting
Sunday		Divine Service Program Practice/Bible Class

7:00 pm Worship @ Glen Ullin

