

Concordia Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

801 Beacon Lane

Beulah, North Dakota

Rev. Toby H. Heller, Pastor

December 29, 2024

1st Sunday after Christmas



*"My eyes have seen your salvation; a light for revelation to the
Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."*

Luke 2:30, 32

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

Welcome to worship this morning! Forty days after our Savior's birth, in accordance with the Old Testament Law, His parents took Him to the temple to consecrate Him to God. There, the holy family met aged Simeon. Taking the Christ child into his arms, Simeon says, "*Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace.*" With Simeon, we sing these same words, knowing that we are at peace with God through Jesus, the Babe of Bethlehem. Visitors, please sign our guest book and worship with us again soon!

DIVINE SERVICE **Setting Three**

Hymn of Invocation # 376

Confession & Absolution p. 184

Introit

The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The Lord has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nation.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

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.

The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Kyrie p. 186

Gloria In Excelsis p. 187

Salutation & Collect p. 189

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament: Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

The Lord said to Moses, "Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."

Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by strength of hand the Lord brought you out from this place. No leavened bread shall be eaten."

"When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, you shall set apart to the Lord all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the Lord's. Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By strength of hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the Lord all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'"

Gradual

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvelous things!

Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

"Alleluia"

p. 190

Holy Gospel: St. Luke 2:22-40

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the

Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

And His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of Him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon Him.

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|---|--------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Nicene Creed | p. 191 | Service of the Sacrament | p. 194 |
| Hymn of the Day | # 370 | Distribution Hymns | # 380, 374, 388 |
| Sermon: The Redeemer Is Himself Redeemed | | Nunc Dimittis | p. 199 |
| Offertory | p. 192 | Thanksgiving | p. 200 |
| Offering | | Benedicamus and Benediction | p. 201 |
| Prayer of the Church | | Closing Hymn | # 386 |

**WE GO FROM THIS PLACE OF WORSHIP WHERE WE ARE ABOUT
EQUIPPING DISCIPLES TO MAKE DISCIPLES FOR JESUS**

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

The newly-elected congregational officers will be installed into office during worship next Sunday, January 5, 2025.

Thank You: We received a beautiful thank you letter from our adopted Seminary student, Dylan Meyer. It is posted on the LWML bulletin board in the social hall.



The January ingathering is “Souper Bowl” soup and crackers for Summit Counseling and Rehab in Stanton.

2025 Offering Envelopes are in your mailbox this morning.



The 2025 Greeters List is posted on the bulletin board in the social hall. Please select the month you prefer to be a greeter.



In our thoughts and prayers, we remember Sue Jensen, the mother of Tracey Jeide, and Bob Schriefer.

Tina and I would like to thank the congregation, LWML, and all who remembered us at Christmas. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated!
Pastor Heller

✠ This Week at Concordia ✠

Sunday 8:00 am Worship @ Glen Ullin
10:00 am Divine Service

Thursday Deadline for January calendar

Sunday 8:00 am Divine Service @ Glen Ullin
9:15 am Sunday School
10:00 am Divine Service
*Installation of Officers
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
concordiasecretary@westriv.com
Website: www.concordiabeulah.org

Stewardship of Offerings & Attendance

Attendance: 96 Offerings: \$3,769.00

*“And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God
and to speak of Him to all who were waiting for the
redemption of Jerusalem.”*

Luke 2:38

Notice here how giving thanks to God leads to good works (speaking about Jesus, in this case). Thankfulness toward God for all He has done for us is the foundation of a Christian life lived in godliness. For if we know all that the Lord has done for us, how can we not strive to honor Him with what we think, say and do?



Acknowledgments

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ND District LCMS Message in a Pew

December 2024



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

*From all of us at the
District Office*

Congregations' Status

Pres. Arie Bertsch

St. Peter-Belfield: vacancy (Rev. Anthony Ahrendt).

Redeemer-Grassy Butte: vacancy (Rev. Mike Wolters).

Crosspointe-Fargo: Rev. Andrew Wolfgram, Holy Cross-Bordentown, NJ, returned the call (Rev. Chris Waldvogel & Rev. Dave Suelzle).

Peace-Garrison; St. Matthew-Max: Rev. Nathan Brown, Trinity/Trinity/Grace Parish-MN North District, returned the call (Rev. Daryl Rothchild & Rev. Paul Nelson).

Grace-Carrington: applying for seminary candidate (Rev. Tom Eckstein).

Zion-Binford; Grace-Cooperstown: applying for seminary candidate (Rev. Bob Hill).

Beautiful Savior-Fargo: extended a call to Rev. Dan Bodin, South Shore Trinity-White Bear Lake, MN.

St. Peter-Devils Lake; Grace-Lakota; St. Andrew-Niagara: Rev. Nathan Brown, Trinity/Trinity/Grace Parish-MN North District, returned the call (Rev. Scott Ramey; Rev. Craig Fenske).

Our Savior-Minot: senior & associate pastor vacancies (Rev. Rick Jones).

St. John-Underwood; Trinity-Hazen: Rev. Nathan Brown, Trinity/Trinity/Grace Parish-MN North District, returned the call (Rev. Zelwyn Heide; Rev. Kirk Peters).

Pastors & DCE's

Rev. Bob Hill, St. Paul-Wimbledon, St. Paul-Kensal, Our Savior-Pettibone, Redeemer-Woodworth, returned a call to St. John-Au Gres, MI.

Katie Rolf, Immanuel-Fargo, returned a call to Trinity Lutheran Church and School-Billings, MT.

NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LCMS
Financial Information
November 2024

INCOME:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Congregational Mission Giving | \$49,651.49 |
| Less Synodical Pledge (35%) | (17,371.02) |
| Net Congregational Mission Giving | \$32,260.47 |
| Other Unrestricted Gift | 5,761.54 |
| 1-1-1 Mission Giving | 450.00 |
| Current gifts/fees for missions | 14,776.04 |
| Available Income | \$53,248.05 |

EXPENSES:

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Local Missions and Committee Activities: (Includes Wittenberg Chapel, Church Workers, Youth) | \$18,583.80 |
| Congregational Support/Operating Expenses (Includes General Operations, District President, Business Manager, Board of Directors) | 32,979.57 |
| International/Local Missions | |
| Christ's Care for Children – Kenya (\$10,000) | 2,500.00 |
| Chile Mission (\$20,000) | 5,000.00 |
| Christ's Care for Children—Kenya special gift | 1,940.00 |
| Chile Mission— Special Events | 1,670.00 |
| Shepherd's Hill Retreat (\$5,000) | 1,250.00 |
| (These missions were voted on by the District Convention They will be paid quarterly as funds are available) | |
| Current Expenses | \$63,923.37 |
| NET OPERATING LOSS FOR AUGUST | (\$10,675.32) |
| Funds Given used for Current Expenses | \$7,160.00 |
| Year To Date NET INCOME/LOSS | (\$14,208.75) |

In November, we were able to catch up with some of the outstanding conference expenses. Quarterly mission payments were made and the offerings from the LWML District Convention were passed on along with those payments.

Gifts from individuals and congregations designated for our convention resolution missions are sent at the end of each fiscal quarter. YTD designated gifts/payments made to these missions as of November 30, 2024:

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Christ's Care for Children – Kenya | \$5,674.00/\$7,500.00 |
| Chile Partnership | \$6,615.00/\$15,000.00 |
| Shepherd's Hill Retreat | \$2,460.00/\$3,750.00 |

Please contact Tami Ulland at lcms.nd.busman@gmail.com or call 701-360-1469 if you have more questions.