



CONCORDIA
Lutheran Church
305 N. Howard Road
Greenwood, IN 46142-3836
317-881-4477
www.concordia-lcms.com

Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025
Pastor Samuel Scheltens

Greetings in Christ, and welcome to Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church!

If you are visiting us for the first time or have not before received Communion from Pastor Scheltens, please speak to Pastor before approaching the altar for the first time.

DIVINE SERVICE III

HYMN OF INVOCATION: 332 SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME

Stand - The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

INTROIT – TONE F

Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4–5



Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.

LORD, you were favorable | to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your | people;*
you covered | all their sin.

Will you not revive | us again,*
that your people may re- | joice in you?

Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn
back to | folly.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.

KYRIE

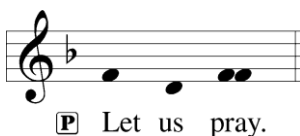
LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P 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.



Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL – TONE F

Psalm 80:1–2



You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.*
Stir up your might and come to | save us!
Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*
you who lead Joseph | like a flock!

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 4:1–5

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2–11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
 dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets.
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY: 345 HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING

SERMON

Stand

OFFERTORY

192

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE

194

- P** The Lord be with you.

- C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Lift up your hearts.

- C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

- C** It is meet and right so to do.

- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary... ...Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

196

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

197

PAX DOMINI

197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the

world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
 tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit

Everyone who eats the Lord's Supper here, where Christ gives us His Body and His Blood for the forgiveness of sins and the nourishing of our faith, confesses that they are in full agreement with what we teach and believe here at Concordia.

Concordia is a member of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and so those who are members in good standing of another church in the Missouri Synod or another body in fellowship with it are welcome to eat and drink the Supper with us here today after speaking with Pastor.

If you are not a member of a Missouri Synod congregation, you are always welcome to hear God's Word with us, and you may still come forward and receive a blessing from Pastor; please cross your arms so Pastor and other communion assistants know that you are just visiting us today.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 619 THY BODY, GIVEN FOR ME, O SAVIOR

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 344 ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 636 SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS

Stand

THE DISMISSAL

LSB 199

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS

199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -

cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

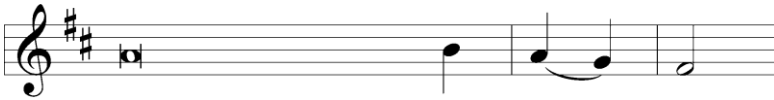
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God...

...through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

SALUTATION

201



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



HYMN TO DEPART: 347 COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Concordia Lutheran Church and Preschool Announcements December 14, 2025

Thrivent Action Teams are still needed this year. If you are a Thrivent member, you likely have FREE Action Teams which can be \$250 to sponsor an event. Events we're looking for sponsors include: Advent Dinners (December), Christmas Cookie Exchange (December), Preschool Christmas Gifts (December), and Preschool Program Reception (December). If you are a Thrivent member and are willing to sponsor one of these events, let Sarah Shadday sarah.shadday@concordia-lcms.com or 314-330-3782 know and she can help with the forms.

Bring in your Mites for Missions in December.

Our **Congregational Christmas Party** is today during the Education Hour. If you are interested in helping with the event, please contact Sarah Shadday. We will also have a **cookie exchange**. If you would like to participate, please bring 1-2 batches of one type of cookie. Participants will be able to put together a tray of cookies made up of all the different cookie brought in. We will also share some of the cookies with our homebound members.

The first quarter (Jan-Mar, 2026) **Portals of Prayer** and **Hope-Full Living** are now available in the narthex.

Last Sunday - Dec 7, 2025

Last Week	Time	Worship Attendance
Sunday	9:30 AM	84
Monday	6:30 PM	10
Wed.	6:30 PM	44

Operating Budget Offering	\$6,667.78
YTD Unified Budget Offerings	\$301,146.74
2025 Operating YTD needed for Budget (\$6,855.00 weekly)	\$328,770.00
2025 Annual Budget	\$356,450.00

Birthdays (this week):	Wedding Anniversaries (this week): Years
Roncza, Laura 12/14	Dan & Diana Sullivan 51 12/14
Pardieck, Mike 12/15	Doug & Heidi Kearns 41 12/15
Bontrager, Shanda 12/16	Shawn & Gabriele Reed 10 12/19
Krause, Sabrina 12/18	
Sullivan, Joe 12/18	
Forster, Chris 12/19	

THIS WEEK AT CONCORDIA

Dec 14	Sunday	9:30a 10:45a	Divine Worship Church Christmas Party
Dec 15	Monday	6:30p 7:00p	Divine Worship Church Council
Dec 16	Tuesday		
Dec 17	Wed.	6:30p 7:00p	Preschool Christmas Program Reception
Dec 18	Thurs.		
Dec 19	Friday		
Dec 20	Saturday	10:00a	Overeaters Anonymous
Dec 21	Sunday	9:30a 10:45a 5:00p	Divine Worship Sunday School Daisy Girl Scout Mtng - Library

Prayers & Intercessions (Matthew 8:17)

Concordia Members

Surgery/Testing/Recovery

- Philip Caruana 12/3/25
- Craig Smith 9/30/25
- Jim Lanning 9/29/25
- Betty Economou 9/22/25
- Lynda Martin 6/16/25
- Jim Roemer 2/12/23
- Tommy Ragsdale 12/11/22



Friends of Concordia

- Chuck Buth 9/23/25
- Kathleen Sebastian 1/30/25
- Beverly Tewell 1/30/25
- Tyshae Smith 8/28/24
- Josephine Shafer 8/13/24
- Leeroy & Vernon Good 6/10/24
- Ralph McGraw 1/2/24
- Connie Henderson 5/14/23
- Terry & Diana Deamron 9/10/22
- Beverly Stephens 8/20/22
- Ed Stephens 2/18/24
- Terry Haskett 5/15/22
- Missy, Austin & Travis Golden 4/20/22
- Judy Heine 11/22/21
- Pat Brooks 9/23/21
- Rose Swenson 7/27/21
- Susan Soggs 1/7/21
- Rev. Howard Fabricius 1/2/21
- Minna Van Arsdale 8/7/19
- Brandon Frederking 5/2/19
- Steve Stephenson 4/28/19
- Thomas Clark 12/16/18

Battling Cancer / MS

- Kelsey Merena 10/25/22
- David Buuck 9/27/21

Homebound Concordia Members

- Sharon Bruhn, 690 South State St Ball Brothers 125, Franklin IN 46131
- Ginny Emmons, 581 Cielo Vista Dr, Greenwood, IN 46143
- Phillis Infante, 1501 S Meridian St Apt 139, Indianapolis, IN 46225

- Pat Barnes, 2339 S 135, Rm 308, Greenwood, IN 46143
- Peter Economou, 1680 Vidalia Ct, Greenwood, IN 46143
- Mary Spray, 1708 N Franklin Rd, Greenwood, IN 46143
- James Lanning, 1134 Barcelona Dr, Greenwood, IN 46143
- Donna Cummings, 7525 N 875 W, Indianapolis, IN 46259

Military Servicemen & women

- Erica Stephenson, Army, National Guard
- LTJG Chloe (Owen) Munoz, 12137 Red Barn Ct, Jacksonville, FL 32226
- Ivan Munoz, (LTJG)
- Zach Goins, 822 Timbervale Trail, Highlands Ranch, CO, 80129 (Navy Reserve)
- CPL Jadon Ranbarger (2166 Marmande St., Kailua, HI 96734)
- PFC Macy Ranbarger (MCAS New River, NC)
- Airman 1st Class, Alexander J. Economou, Air Natl Guard, Ft. Wayne, IN

Note: Please provide updates to office for additions and removals to the "Prayers & Intercessions" listing.

Pastor Scheltens' Office Hours:

Mon and Wed mornings - By appointment
Tues and Thurs mornings - Available for walk-ins
Afternoons - open for visits

Pastoral Care: call Pastor Sam Scheltens at 309-824-5903, email pastorscheltens@concordia-lcms.com