



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

Holy Innocents
December 28, 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 (LSB 184)

HYMN OF INVOCATION: 517 BY ALL YOUR SAINTS IN WARFARE

sts. 1, 9, 3

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 B

Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b



P These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.

C In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;*
in your righteousness de- | liver me.

For you are my rock and my | fortress;*

and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.

Into your hand I commit my | spirit;*

you have redeemed me, O LORD, | faithful God.

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.

These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.

KYRIE

LSB 186



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



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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



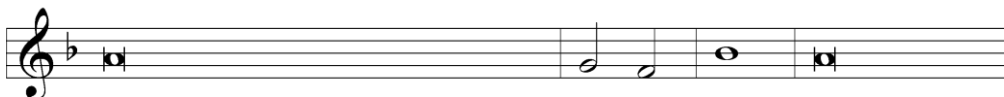
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir-it.

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth Your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with Your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A-men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 31:15–17

Thus says the LORD:

“A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more.”

Thus says the LORD:

“Keep your voice from weeping,
and your eyes from tears,
for there is a reward for your work,
declares the LORD,
and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.
There is hope for your future,
declares the LORD,
and your children shall come back to their own country.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL – TONE B

Psalm 71:4a, 5a, 6a, b, 8



Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the | wicked.*

For you, O Lord, | are my hope.

Upon you have I leaned from be- | fore my birth;*

you are he who took me from my | mother's womb.

My mouth is filled | with your praise,*

and with your glory | all the day.

EPISTLE

Revelation 14:1–5

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four

living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

LSB 190



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13–18

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



When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

“A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

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.

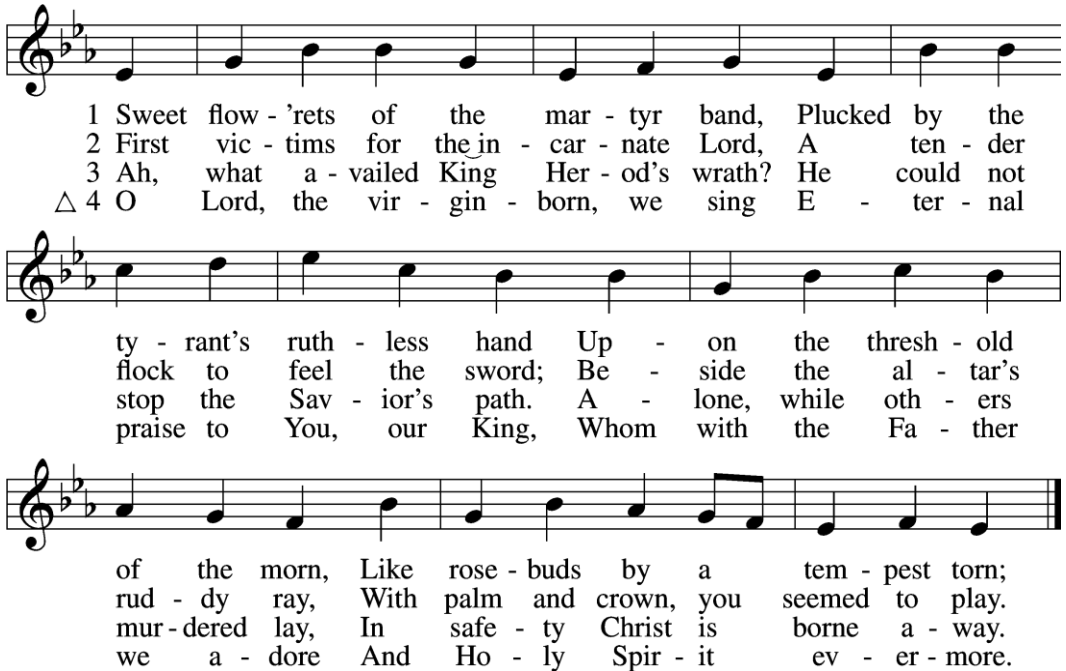
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
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: 969 SWEET FLOWERETS OF THE MARTYR BAND



1 Sweet flow - 'rets of the mar - tyr band, Plucked by the
 2 First vic - tims for the in - car - nate Lord, A ten - der
 3 Ah, what a - vailed King Her - od's wrath? He could not
 4 O Lord, the vir - gin - born, we sing E - ter - nal
 ty - rant's ruth - less hand Up - on the thresh - old
 flock to feel the sword; Be - side the al - tar's
 stop the Sav - ior's path. A - lone, while oth - ers
 praise to You, our King, Whom with the Fa - ther
 of the morn, Like rose - buds by a tem - pest torn;
 rud - dy ray, With palm and crown, you seemed to play.
 mur - dered lay, In safe - ty Christ is borne a - way.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348–c. 413; tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821–77, alt.
 Tune: Daniel Vetter, d. 1721
 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Stand

OFFERTORY



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

192

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.

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: 675 OH, WHAT THEIR JOY

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 679 OH, HOW BLEST ARE THEY

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.

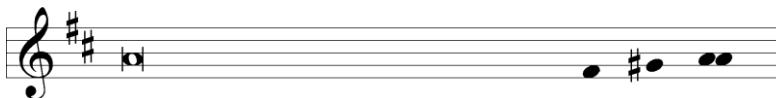
NUNC DIMITTIS

199

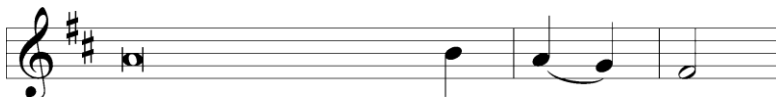
C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
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



A 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

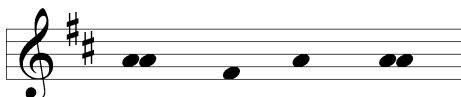
201



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.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

HYMN TO DEPART: 756 WHY SHOULD CROSS AND TRIAL GRIEVE ME

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Concordia Lutheran Church and Preschool Announcements December 28, 2025

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

Ladies, help us with mission activities on Saturday, Jan. 10. We will attempt fidget mats, tie knots in quilts, and wrap cross necklaces for Forged by Fire. (Feel free to bring your own craft or needlework.) Come and go as you please, from 9a until noon. Light refreshments provided.

It's time to bring in your Mites for Missions. Place in the large Mite Box in the narthex.

The church office will be closed from Christmas Day, 12/25/25 through New Year's Day, 1/1/26. Please contact Chris Brooks (317-403-0949) with any non-pastoral concerns.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES:

Christmas Eve 12/24/25 - 6:30 pm Vespers and 11:00 pm Divine Service

Christmas Day 12/25/25 - 9:30 am

Sunday 12/28/25 - 9:30 am

New Year's Eve 12/31/25 - 6:30 pm

Sunday 1/4/26 - 9:30 am

*** Epiphany - Tuesday 1/6/26 - 6:30 pm

Last Sunday - Dec 21, 2025

Operating Budget Offering	\$9,271.45
YTD Unified Budget Offerings	\$315,715.55
2025 Operating YTD needed for Budget (\$6,855.00 weekly)	\$342,480.00
2025 Annual Budget	\$356,450.00

Birthdays (this week):	Wedding Anniversaries (this week): Years
Brooks, Chris 12/30	Marvin & Linda Barks 62 12/28
Heine, Dawn 12/31	Michael & Sarah Marot 31 12/30
Guinn, Tracy 1/4	

THIS WEEK AT CONCORDIA

Dec 28	Sunday	9:30a 10:45a 6:00p	Divine Worship Sunday School Women's Bible Study
Dec 29	Monday	6:30p	Divine Worship
Dec 30	Tuesday		
Dec 31	Wed.	6:30p	New Year's Eve Divine Worship
Jan 1	Thurs.		
Jan 2	Friday		
Jan 3	Saturday	10:00a	Overeaters Anonymous
Jan 4	Sunday	9:30a 10:45a 6:00p	Divine Worship Sunday School Women's Bible Study

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