



Concordia Lutheran Church

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Livestream Link for Worship Services:

<https://bit.ly/frohna> or search for *concordia frohna* on YouTube.com

Welcome to Concordia

A Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod Congregation

***The mission of Concordia Lutheran Church is to gather, teach and inspire
all generations to share the Good News!***

*The back pews are reserved for families with small children.
A nursery is available in our multipurpose room on the side of the narthex.*

Sunday, December 1, 2024

First Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 1, 2024

Hymn: “*Lift Up Your Head, Ye Mighty Gates*”

LSB 341

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Confession of Sin & Absolution

Pastor: During this Advent season, as we prepare to celebrate our Lord’s birth, let us examine ourselves according to the prophetic revelation in the Scriptures. Through Jeremiah, the prophet, God promises that the coming Messiah will be called “The LORD is our righteousness.”

People: We confess that, at times, we consider our good intentions as good enough to somehow merit God’s approval. We do not rely solely on the grace of God in Christ Jesus, who is the source of our righteousness.

Pastor: In writing to the Thessalonians, St. Paul prays that our love for one another may increasingly abound.

People: We confess that all too often, we have pursued our own interests. We have not sincerely looked out for the interest of others. We repent for not expressing the love of Christ by using our gifts and resources to meet our neighbor’s needs.

Pastor: When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the crowd hailed him as their promised King.

People: We confess our rebellion against God, who is our King. We try to hide our secret sins, believing that we may escape his judgment or that we are unworthy of receiving his mercy. Our thoughts, words, and actions contradict the gracious rule of Christ the King. Heavenly Father, have mercy on us, for the sake of your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.)

Pastor: God the Father promised to send the Messiah—Jesus the Christ, who is our Righteousness, and Jesus, the King, who is the chosen one who restores us to himself, declaring us to be his forgiven people. In his sacred Word, God allows us to witness his birth, death, resurrection, and ascension so that the kingdom of heaven will be open to all who believe. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Psalm 25:1-10 (*Teach me your paths.*)

Pastor: Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

People: O my God, in you I trust;

Pastor: let me not be put to shame;

People: let not my enemies exult over me.

Women: Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;

Men: they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Pastor: Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

People: teach me your paths.

Women: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;

Men: for you I wait all the day long.

All: Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

Women: according to your steadfast love remember me,

Men: for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

Pastor: Good and upright is the LORD;

People: therefore, he instructs sinners in the way.

Pastor: He leads the humble in what is right,

People: and teaches the humble his way.

Pastor: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,

People: for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath/Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (vv. 1 & 4)

LSB 357

Advent Prayer

Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14-16 (*The righteous Branch*)

Lector: ¹⁴“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD Our Righteous Savior.’” This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Epistle: I Thessalonians 3:9-13 (*May your love increase and overflow*)

Lector: ⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹²May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones. This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Alleluia & Verse (*Psalms 24:7*)

Pastor: Alleluia! Lift up your heads, O you gates;

People: and be lifted up, O ancient doors,

Pastor: that the King of glory may come in.

People: Alleluia!

Holy Gospel: Luke 19:28-40

(Jesus is hailed as King as he enters Jerusalem.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 19th chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor: And when he had said these things, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" And they said,

People: The Lord has need of it.

Pastor: And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying,

People: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!

Pastor: And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

Children's Message

Hymn: "*Savior of the Nations, Come*"

LSB 332

Sermon "Apocalypse Now" Luke 21:25-36

Offering/Rite of Fellowship

(Please sign the attendance sheet in the red booklet as it comes to you.)

Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

+Sacrament+

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and proper...evermore praising you and saying:

Sanctus [Tune: LSB 357]

O holy, holy, holy Lord,
the God of heav'nly hosts adored.
Both heav'n and earth Your glory show.
Hosanna sing unto the Lord.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel! Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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Prayer of Thanks

The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Peace of the Lord

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you. Amen.

Agnus Dei [Tune: LSB 357]

O Christ, the holy Lamb of God,
who takes away the whole world's sin.
Have mercy on us now, we pray;
and grant Your heav'nly peace within.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel! Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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Distribution/Hymn: "What Is This Bread"

LSB 629

Nunc Dimittis [Tune: LSB 357]

Lord, let Your servant go in peace.
Your gracious word I now recall.
My eyes have seen salvation here,
glory for Israel, light for all.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel! Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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Post-Communion Thanks

Blessing

Pastor: The blessing of God Almighty— the Father who promised, the Son who came to save, and the Spirit who sends us out in love— bless you now and always.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Hymn: "Abide, O Dearest Jesus"

LSB 919

STATEMENT ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as he says, gives not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26, 28; I Corinthians 11:23-24). In joyful obedience to the clear teaching of our Lord, those are invited to his table who trust his word of promise, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us. Because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a belief concerning the Lord's Supper that is different from the Lutheran Church-Missouri

Synod are respectfully requested not to receive the sacrament in the service today. You may come forward for a blessing by crossing your arms across your chest, as an indication to the pastor. If you have questions regarding your participation, or would like to learn more, please speak to the pastor after the service. Thank you!

In preparing to receive Holy Communion, ask yourself these questions:

1. Am I sincerely sorry for my sins, and do I repent of them?
2. Do I confidently trust in Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, who died for me, paying for my sins, and rose again from the dead, to give me eternal life?
3. Do I believe that Jesus is truly present in, with and under the bread and wine in Holy Communion, and that I receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith?
4. Do I promise, with the Holy Spirit's help, to amend my sinful life, and to declare this resolve through Christian living, faithful worship, and careful stewardship of time, talent, and treasures?
5. Do I understand that by receiving the Lord's Supper in this congregation, I am declaring that the teaching of this congregation, a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, is also my own?

Participants in Today's Service

Greeters: Dennis and Diane Leimbach
 Acolyte: Nolan Head
 Organist: Barb Burroughs
 Elder: Adam Hoehne
 Ushers: Jason Hecht, Ethan Best, Kevin Martyn, Carson Martyn
 Audio/Visual Team: Jesse Grebing, Donna Hecht

This Week's Schedule

Today, Dec. 1, 2024	After worship	Evangelism Committee
Mon., Dec. 2, 2024		Pastor Hoemann's day off
Tues., Dec. 3, 2024	4:30 p.m.	Pickleball (UCLS gym)
	5:30 p.m.	<i>EPC Wildcats Basketball vs. Nell Holcomb (Home at APS)</i>
	6 p.m.	Council Budget Meeting
	7:30 p.m.	Dartball-Farrar at Frohna
Wed., Dec. 4, 2024	9 a.m.	Bible Study (Acts of the Apostles)
	6:30 p.m.	Advent Worship
Thurs., Dec. 5, 2024	Noon	Bulletin items due
	5:30 p.m.	<i>EPC Wildcats Basketball vs. St. Paul (Away)</i>
Sun., Dec. 8, 2024	8 a.m.	Bible Study
	9 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion
	After worship	Voters' Budget Meeting
	After worship	Refreshments and fellowship
	After worship	LYF Christmas party/lunch
	1 p.m.	Grebing open house in UCLS gym
	3 p.m.	Neighborhood Christmas Caroling

Announcements

Attendance: Worship-113 (90 in person, 23 online), one year ago-104; Bible Class-16 (9 in person, 7 online)

As We Gather: Today's Gospel is also the one appointed for Palm Sunday. The One whose birth we are preparing to celebrate is he who came to die for us on a cross outside Jerusalem. As God had promised, Christ gave us his own righteousness by taking our place. His love is now ours to give to our neighbor.

Stewardship Standard: Luke 19:31 says, **"If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'"** Consider the faithfulness of that man who owned the donkey and colt. All he needed to hear was, "The Lord has need of it," and he willingly gave. The Lord has given each of us various callings in life (in our homes, in the congregation, and in the community in which we live). In each calling, we have good work to do, which comes from the Lord's hand. The Lord has need of us in each calling. How is he calling you to generous living and giving in each of your vocations?

Order in the order—We hear with reverence and awe, with joy and thanksgiving, a reading from one of the four accounts of Jesus' life and message; his death and resurrection. **THE GOSPEL** reading is the climactic moment in the "Service of the Word." It is surrounded, appropriately enough, by "Glory to you, O Lord," and "Praise to you, O Christ!"

Prayers for the following, please: our shut-in members Edgar and Della Dreyer, Mildred Grebing, Tillie Luckey, Mahela Lueders, Jean Mueller, Flora Oberndorfer; for those in need of healing: Dale Burroughs and Debbie Lichtenegger; for God's blessings on the ministry of Missionary John Wolf and his family, as they share the Gospel in Africa; for Seminarian Blake Brockman and his family as he continues his studies at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis; for the renovation work going on inside the Hall; for hurricane recovery in the southeastern United States.

"Giving Tree" for LFCS: The A.C.T.S. small group is collecting needed items for Lutheran Family & Children's Services. Please grab an ornament, or two, or three from the "Giving Tree" located in the narthex today. A collection box will be available through Sunday, December 8. Thanks!

"Savior of the Nations Come" is the theme for our mid-week Advent services, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. December 4, 11, and 18.

You are invited to a special open house in honor of Helen Grebing on the occasion of her 90th birthday. The festivities will be 1-4 p.m., Sunday, December 8, in the UCLS gymnasium. No gifts, please!

Concordia's annual neighborhood Christmas caroling will be at 3 p.m., Sunday, December 8. Refreshments afterwards in the Hall. Come and help your congregation spread the Advent/Christmas good news, that Jesus Christ is born!

Poinsettias will arrive in time for the Christmas Country Church Tour. If you would like to donate a plant (\$13 each), there is a sign-up sheet on the south buffet in the narthex. Write your name and indicate if it is donated for a special occasion or memorial. Please put your money in the red envelope.

Hosts and hostesses are needed to greet visitors for the Christmas Country Church Tour, Thursday and Friday, December 19-20. Shifts are 90 minutes. Please help us welcome our guests. Sign-up sheets are located in the narthex. If you have any questions, contact Denise Morrison at 573-824-5605.

Calling all cookie bakers! Cookies are needed for the Christmas Country Church Tour. Please sign up in the narthex and let us know how many cookies you are bringing. Bring them to the multipurpose room by 11 a.m., Thursday, December 19, so the committee can package them.

Did you know... if you are 70 ½ years old, or older, and have an IRA, you can instruct your IRA trustee to make a distribution directly from your IRA to Concordia Lutheran Church. This distribution is called Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). It counts toward satisfying any required minimum distributions (RMDs) and is excluded from your income for tax purposes. If you have questions, or want to know more, please contact Carol Duggan at 573-824-6060.

<u>OCTOBER - Per Service</u>			<u>OCTOBER 2024 Breakdown</u>			
			<u>Received by</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Amt</u>
Sunday	10/6/2024	\$ 2,090.00	Offering Plate	General	Envelopes	\$ 13,896.00
Sunday	10/13/2024	\$ 6,305.50	Offering Plate	General	Loose Change	\$ 1,506.45
Sunday	10/20/2024	\$ 4,900.55	Treasurer	General		\$ 16,106.84
Sunday	10/27/2024	\$ 2,106.40	Online	General		\$ 6,804.95
Online		\$ 6,904.95	Online	Endowment	Capitol Imprv	\$ 50.00
	Total	\$22,307.40	Online	Endowment	Saxony	\$ 50.00
						\$ 38,414.24
						Average per Week \$ 8,536.50
						<i>To meet our 2024 budget we need around \$9,584.00 per week</i>

Finance Board Update: There will be some changes in 2025. To help reduce costs, we will be reducing the number of contribution envelopes purchased because many are not being used. If an assigned number hasn't been used in the last five years, we will assume that member does not desire to use for recording purposes, and we will no longer include them in the list. For any number that has been used in the last five years, the numbers will be reassigned. Also, annual statements will now be printed or emailed by request only. Contact Jenny France, concordia.finsec@gmail.com or call/text 573-517-3273, if you would like to receive the annual statement. Thank you!

United in Christ Lutheran School (UCLS) Notes

'Tis the season to earn! Earn on all your holiday shopping when you buy gift cards and shop online through UCLS's RaiseRight (Scrip) program. New this year... create your own RaiseRight account! With a mobile app available and instant access to your eGift card and reload purchases, you can buy gift cards and shop online through RaiseRight anytime, anywhere and have physical gift cards shipped directly to your home. Your gift card purchases (whether a physical card or egift card) generate earnings for UCLS that will be used for the Accelerated Reader program. You can also designate a UCLS family with which to share the earnings. A new feature allows UCLS to share 50 percent of a family gift card sales earnings to offset their family's school costs. Here's how to earn:

1. **Buy gift cards** from RaiseRight and use them to pay for all your holiday purchases. Every gift card purchase from RaiseRight earns up to 20% back!
2. **Shop online** through RaiseRight—log in to your RaiseRight account, click through to shop directly on a brand's website, and earn upon completing a purchase.

Plus, you can earn extra by combining earnings! Shop online through RaiseRight, then buy a gift card to use as payment for your online purchase. You'll earn both ways at once!

(Pro tip: install RaiseRight's browser extension to your browser so you can get earning reminders while shopping online.)

Saxony Lutheran High School Notes

You are invited to Saxony Lutheran's annual open house 1-2:30 p.m., Sunday, December 8. Student-led tours, time to meet faculty and staff, and hearing how you can join the Saxony family are included.

The Saxony Band and Choir Department invites you to its annual Christmas concert at 3 p.m., Sunday, December 8, in the Gerhard Birk Gymnasium.

Calling all Saxony alumni: Update your contact information via email at alumni@saxonylutheranhighschool.org. Also, save the date, Friday, January 3, 2025, for a special Saxony alumni event. You won't want to miss it!

Neighboring Church and Community Notes

The Friedenbergh Historical Society invites you to worship at 3 p.m. today at Hill of Peace Lutheran Church, Friedenbergh. A service of readings and carols, marking the start of Advent, will be led by Rev. Dr. Daniel Harmelink of Concordia Historical Institute. Music will be provided by the Immanuel Lutheran, Perryville, men's choir. Refreshments will be served in the hall following the service.

The Brazeau Old-Fashioned Christmas Walk, hosted by the Brazeau Historical Society, will be 3-8 p.m., Saturday, December 7. Brazeau will be lit by more than 300 luminaries. Visit the live nativity and the craft fair; attend the Christmas carol sing-along from 5-7 p.m. at the church; mail letters to the North Pole at the post office; go on an elf hunt; grab a bite to eat at Carrie's Tea House; make s'mores with the kids; and visit the museum and winery. Proceeds will benefit the Brazeau Historical Society.

A ham-and-bean dinner will be 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday, December 8, at Eisleben Lutheran Church, 432 Lutheran Lane, Scott City. All-you-can-eat ham and beans, fried potatoes, slaw, corn bread, dessert, and drink; \$12 for adults, \$6 for children (ages 6-12). Proceeds will go towards sending youth to the LCMS National Youth Gathering.

The East Perry Lions Club is sponsoring "Light Up the Towns!" This annual event has become a wonderful tradition for our community. We invite anyone, residence or business, within the city limits of Altenburg or Frohna to participate. There is no entry fee, and the cash prizes that have been provided by area businesses are again very generous. Go to either People's Bank, The Coffee Shop at Bellman's, Gas-A-Mat, or West End to pick up an entry form. Entries must be received by 5 p.m., Monday, December 9. We look forward to seeing the community all festive as we "Light Up the Towns!"

KFUO Notes

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & kfuo.org: *Sharper Iron* airs a new series called "The Fifth Evangelist" (8 a.m. weekdays), featuring the book of Isaiah. On *Thy Strong Word* (11 a.m. weekdays), we enter into Holy Week, taking a look at chapters 12-14 in John's Gospel. Join us live on Sunday and Wednesday (1 and 7 p.m.) as we bring back a special 100th anniversary edition of "JOY," a one-hour program of sacred music for the Advent season. Find the full program schedule at kfuo.org/joy.

MISSOURI DISTRICT NEWS

Missouri taxpayers—both individuals and businesses—have the unique opportunity to direct up to 50% of their state taxes to Lutheran education. MOScholars is a tax credit program that allows the Missouri District to convert these tax dollars into scholarships for qualifying students attending LCMS schools in Missouri. The deadline

is December 31, so now is a great time for taxpayers to participate in MOScholars. Reserving these tax credits is easy and can be completed online in a matter of minutes. The Missouri District website (mo.lcms.org) contains more information on MOScholars, as well as links to get the process started. Contact Leah Sieveking at the District office, 314-590-6211, or leah.sieveking@mo.lcms.org, with questions. Thank you for your participation in MOScholars through the Missouri District.

“Life Quote” from Lutherans for Life

“Do you ever doubt the love of God? Perhaps you are just 'looking for love in all the wrong places,' if you'll pardon the expression. Don't look to your own feelings and emotions which can change with the wind but look to Bethlehem and the manger. See God's love in this, that his only begotten Son was sent to be humbled and to die for you. Understand that at Christmas, 'God so loved the world that he gave ...'” *Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Week: 15	<u>Hymn of the Week</u>
Sunday: Advent 1	<p>LSB 332 “Savior of the Nations, Come” Savior of the nations, come, Virgin’s Son, make here Your home! Marvel now, O heav’n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bible Stories</u></p> <p>12/02 -- M: 1 Samuel 12:1, 14-25 12/03 -- Tu: 1 Samuel 13:1-14 12/04 -- W: 1 Samuel 14:52- 15:9 12/05 -- Th: 1 Samuel 15:10-35 12/06 -- F: 1 Samuel 16:1-23</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bible Verse</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>³⁰Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”³¹And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”</i> Acts 16:30–31 (ESV)</p>

Catechism

The 3rd Article: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean? I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.”