

Concordia Evangelical Lutheran

*Comfort,
comfort my people,
says your God.*

Isaiah 40:1



The Third Sunday in Advent

December 15, 2024

13455 Bluffton Road, South Haven, MN 55382
320-236-7550 | celclcms@gmail.com | concordialcms.com

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" Ps. 122:1

Instructions for Communion:

If you are a member of Concordia, see the pew card for help preparing to receive Jesus' body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins.

If you are a guest, welcome! Communion at Concordia is reserved for members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations. Please speak with Pastor Buchs about Communion before participating.

Didn't have a chance to talk with Pastor about Communion before church?

If you're member of an LCMS congregation, you are welcome to Communion, but please let Pastor Buchs know where you go to church when you come to the Communion rail.

Prayers for Worship can be found inside the front cover of the hymnal. More prayers are provided on page 305ff.

Order of Service

Opening Hymn: **#344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**

Confession & Absolution (Hymnal, p. 184)

Introit (Bulletin, p. 2)

Kyrie (Hymnal, p. 186)

The Gloria is omitted during Advent

The Readings (Bulletin, p. 3-4)

Nicene Creed (Hymnal, p. 191)

Hymn of the Day: **#347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People**

Catechism Recitation: **The Second Commandment** (Hymnal p. 321)

Sermon

Offertory – **What shall I render to the Lord?** (Bulletin, p. 5)

Prayers (Hymnal, p. 192)

Service of the Sacrament (Hymnal, p. 194)

#357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

#332 Savior of the Nations, Come

Nunc Dimittis (Hymnal, p. 199)

Closing Hymn: **#346 When All the World was Cursed**

Third Sunday in Advent

INTROIT *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 rejoice 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 beginning,

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.

GRADUAL *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!

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak 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.

³A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every 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.

⁵And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

⁶A 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.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the Lord blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get 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!”

¹⁰Behold, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He 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.

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But 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. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore 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.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the 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. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As 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? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

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

¹¹Truly, 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.”

Offertory – What shall I render to the Lord?



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Learn By Heart for this week

The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

Next Sunday

Readings: Deuteronomy 18:15-19, Philippians 4:4-7, John 1:19-28

Hymns: 383, 345, 334, 348, 343

Collect of the Day: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Worship!



JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 1
FRIDAY EVENING & SATURDAY

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
FAIRHAVEN, MN

Train yourself
for godliness!
(1 Tim. 4:7)

Bible Study,
Strength Competition,
Worship, Food, &
Camaraderie

THE OF
SWORD GIDEON
— MEN'S RETREAT —

More information & registration: www.concordialcms.com/gideon



Prayer Requests

Donna Anderson
 Avery Broich
(granddaughter of Robin Halverson)
 Darlene Dillon
 Robin Halverson
 Halarie Haukaas
 Pam Hutchings
 Nikki James
(niece of Arlen & Verna Lea Salmela)
 Teddy Kothe
 Gracie Muehring
 Marshall Neumiller
 Lorraine Rose
 Arlen Salmela
 Emery Schmidt
 Kaitlyn Stewart
 Kathy Wohlman

Birthdays & Anniversaries

December 15 Lila Lies
 Renata Buchs
 December 19 Jessica Buchs
 Leroy Rose

Pastor:	Rev. David Buchs
Elder:	Jason Buboltz
Organist:	Lynn Hoff

This Week's Schedule

Today	9:00 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study/Sunday School
Wednesday	8:30 am	Homeschool Choir
	9:30 am	Chapel
	10:00 am	Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Family Night
	7:00 pm	Advent Midweek Service
Friday	7:00 pm	AA Meeting
Next Sunday	9:00 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Bible Study/Sunday School