

Zion Lutheran Church



*Third Sunday of
Advent
December 11th 2016*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Elsie DallaPiazza in Memory of her father Amando DallaPiazza and MeMaw & Grandpa Meier in Honor of their granddaughter Sierra's 5th Birthday.
- **ETERNAL LIGHT** is given by Sandra Hervert in Memory of parents Charles & Jane White
- **SPOTLIGHT MINISTRY... SPOTLIGHT MINISTRY....THINGS TO DO** (1. Bible Study 2. Sign up to bring cookies to the Children's Christmas Program 3. Sign up to bring a Christmas gift for the Giving Tree 4. Eat a treat), **PLACES TO GO** (Women's Retreat at Camp Pioneer in March!), **PEOPLE TO SEE** (Photos!) at the **WOMEN'S MINISTRY** display in the rear corner of the Sanctuary.
- **HARK! O COME...**see, hear and encourage Zion's youngest disciples **TODAY**, December 11 at 1 PM as they perform for you the 2016 Children's Christmas Program "**S is for Savior.**"
- **LUNCH IS SERVED:** Prior to the Children's Christmas Program and immediately following the second service, you are joyfully invited to join us for a pizza/subs/salad lunch with a homemade **CHRISTMAS COOKIE STATION!**
- **ANGEL TREE GIFTS...**are due Today, and are being gathered in the rear corner of the Sanctuary.
- **ADVENT SERVICES** will start on Wednesday November 30th. Join us for dinner at 6:00pm and then stay for service at 7:00pm.
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** leaders are needed for the January Sunday school unit "Jesus is Baptized". Available stations include: Art, Cookery, Games, Science, and Spiritual Practices. A helper for the preschool group is also needed. Please email sundayschool@zlcb.org to sign up.
- **OFFERING ENVELOPES** are now available in the back of the church. Please take your envelopes. Any questions please see Nancy Klemash. The envelopes are in alphabetical order. If you do not find a box of envelopes in your name, and are a member, and want envelopes to use for your offerings, please let me know. And, if you have been contributing using the **online** system only, and do not desire physical envelopes, please let me know.
- **WELCOME CENTER!** Are you a guest or visitor looking for information about Zion? Hello and welcome to Zion! Stop by the table in the foyer after the service and we'll try to help.
- **BIBLE IN A YEAR** readings are available on our church's website and in your monthly Zion Newsletter. Join us as we read the Bible in a Year in 2016!
- **CHURCH NURSERY:** Is available for kids age 0-2 during the 10:30 Service! The Nursery ("Little Lions") is open during the late service in the lower level of the building. (If you need help locating the nursery, please ask an Usher or Greeter for assistance.)
- **NEED PRAYER?** Stephen Ministers and Elders will be available to pray with or for you following the Service in the Chancel area.
- **TODAY'S GOSPEL READING AND SERMON** will be posted to the ZLCB.org website later today. For an archive of older sermons, visit www.zlcb.org/sermons

Welcome to worship!

Welcome to Worship!

We've been talking at length about the end times since the start of this advent season. So far we've done it through the lens of the life of Jesus and the teaching of John the Baptist, but today we shift gears as James gives instructions in light of the fact that the end is coming. James helps us interpret the impending last day that we have been discussing. What are we to do in light of the fact that the day is soon approaching?

One of the things that James tells his hearers is to be patient. Patience in the early church took place under much different circumstances than it does now. We'll talk about this during our sermon. We'll also talk about how the things that James tells us apply in our own lives. We wait with patience because we know what is to come, salvation brought by Jesus!

May God bless your worship!

-Vicar Joshua

Rev. Eric Carlson, Vacancy Pastor
Office Phone: 412-221-4776

Vicar Joshua Ulm
Website: www.zlcb.org



ZION EQUIPS, EDUCATES, AND ENCOURAGES BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, SENDING THEM INTO THE WORLD TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

Zion Lutheran Church 3197 Washington Pike Bridgeville, PA 15017

The Service of the Word

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books, located at either end of the pew. If you are visiting us this morning and would like to be contacted by the church, please indicate so in the Attendance Book. We are glad you chose to worship at Zion this morning!)

Prelude

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Hymn: The Advent of Our King

331

The Invocation

Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins

Vicar: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vicar: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Declaration of Grace by the Vicar

Kyrie-LSB 152

V In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

V For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

V For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

V For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

V Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

V The Lord be with you

C And also with you

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

C Amen

The Sharing of the Peace

V The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn: Hark the Glad Sound

349

Epistle Reading:

James 5:7-12

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness

of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Alleluia and Verse (please stand)

**C Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life
Alleluia!**

Vicar: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th Chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2-15

Now 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. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Children’s Message

Sermon Hymn: Savior of the Nations, Come

332

Sermon

(Please stand)

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

The Collection of the Offering

If you are visiting with us this morning, know that your presence here means far more to us than any gift of money you could make; please do not hesitate to let the plate pass you by.

Offertory -

Reverence 8:00 am

O Come O Come Emmanuel - 10:30 am (Men's Choir)

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

V Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven,**

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.**

Benedicamus

V: Let us bless the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Benediction

V The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C **Amen.**

The Recessional: Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

353

Postlude

† *Service Participants* †

Vicar:	Joshua Ulm
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	James Neill & Mike Sterba
The Acolyte:	Ava Pasquini (8:00) Leah Luedeman (10:30)
The Greeters:	Bernie & Jean Blanco (8:00) Megan & Lee Glasser (10:30)
The Ushers:	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop (8:00) Jack Oelschlager & Ron Meier Ross Chilcott & Dan Harris (10:30) Chuck LaJeunesse, Rich Quinlan
Altar Guild:	Janet & Marian Oelschlager
Nursery:	Adele Goodge, Sharon Bodgen & Christine Chilcott

Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (12/4) – 202

Wednesday Attendance (12/7) – 47

Sunday Offering (12/4) - \$5,181.00

Online Offering (11/28-12/2) - \$690.00

Advent Service (12/7) - \$940.06

~Online giving is now available by going to the Zion web site: www.zlcb.org~

Week of Dec. 11th - Dec. 18th

<p>SUNDAY 12/11</p>	<p>8:00 AM – Worship 9:15 AM – Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship 11:45 AM – Christmas Luncheon 1:00 PM – Children’s Christmas Program – S is for Savior</p>
<p>MONDAY 12/12</p>	<p>7:00 PM – Confirmation 7:30 PM – Call Committee Meeting</p>
<p>TUESDAY 12/13</p>	<p>7:00 PM – Choir Practice</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY 12/14</p>	<p>6:00 PM – Advent Dinner 7:00 PM – Advent Service</p>
<p>THURSDAY 12/15</p>	<p>10:00 AM – Bible Study</p>
<p>FRIDAY 12/16</p>	
<p>SATURDAY 12/17</p>	<p>8:00 AM – Men’s Bible Breakfast</p>
<p>SUNDAY 12/18</p>	<p>8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15 AM – Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion 11:45 AM – Children’s Choir Practice 11:45 AM – Events Committee Meeting 11:45 AM – Stephen Ministry Meeting</p>

S is for Savior

2016 Children's Christmas Program and Luncheon
(Pizza, Subs, Salad, & Christmas Cookie Table)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11


**Luncheon immediately following second service
Program (Sanctuary) 1:00PM**

Kindly RSVP for luncheon on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.



**COME WATCH YOUR ZION FAMILY'S YOUNGEST
SHARE THE GOSPEL!**

They will remember you came... some, all their lives !



Operation:
Bags of Love

Help support our
troops!

Last year, we sent **264** bags of love to American troops in Afghanistan, Korea and Greenland.

Help make our 5th year the BEST EVER.

Your mission? Bring the following items and place in one of the Operation Stars and Stripes collection boxes:

Ramen Noodles

Drink Mix Singles (Propel, Coffee, etc.)

Snack sized packages of **Granola Bars**

Snack sized packages of **Jerky** or **Slim Jims**

Chewing **Gum**

Gallon-sized **ZipLok** Bags

Other ways you can help:

Monetary donations to help with shipping costs (*make checks payable to Zion Lutheran church and label "OSS"*)

Write a **Letter of Encouragement** to a soldier. Must be written on provided letterhead.

Draw a **Picture** on our Operation: Bags of Love drawing page.

Pray for our troops.

Help Sunday school kids assemble items on February 19th at 9:15am.

(Letterhead and drawing pages are available in the Narthex, school lobby and on the Sunday school tab at www.zlcb.org.)

Collections begin Sunday, December 11th

Thank you for your donations!
~Zion Lutheran Sunday school

For more information about Operation: Stars and Stripes, Inc., please visit their website at www.operationstarsandstripes.com.