

# Zion Lutheran Church



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
December 18<sup>th</sup> 2016

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Andy & Rochelle Thompson in Honor of their Parents.
- **ETERNAL LIGHT** is given by Bernice DeBoe in Memory of grandparents Elizabeth & George Gall.
- **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@zlcg.org](mailto:sundayschool@zlcg.org) to sign up.
- **ADVENT SERVICES** will start on Wednesday November 30<sup>th</sup>. Join us for dinner at 6:00pm and then stay for service at 7:00pm.
- **YOUTH EVENT** for middle school students will be coming soon. Be on the lookout for more information for a January event!
- **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](http://www.zlcb.org/sermons)

# Welcome to worship!

Welcome to Worship!

Well, we're almost there. In the preaching, teaching, and hymns at Zion the birth of Christ has been noticeably absent for the past several weeks, but we're almost there. We've been moving toward the Christmas story (we'll hear it in our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services), and today we get the wonderful appearance of an angel of the Lord to Joseph. He tells him that Mary will bear a son, tells him to name the child Jesus, and gives the purpose for his coming "he will save his people from their sins".

Things are going to ramp up in the coming days, both in the church and in the world. In the world, even for those who do not believe, the preparation for a day of celebration is increasing. Shopping, cooking, and time spent with family will fill up the coming days for many in our country. We can take in this excitement as well, but our anticipation, our joy, our preparation, is increased because we know why we are preparing. We prepare to celebrate the birth of the one who saved **us** from our sins, and we prepare for his return in glory.

May God bless your worship today!

-Vicar Joshua

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

Vicar Joshua Ulm  
Website: [www.zlcb.org](http://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 Divine Service

(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: Prepare the Royal Highway*

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## *The Invocation*

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

**People: Amen.**

## *Confession of Sins*

Pastor: 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.**

Pastor: 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.**

## *Absolution Spoken by the Pastor*

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen**

## ***Kyrie***

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 O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

## **Old Testament Reading:**

**Isaiah 7:10-17**

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you

dread will be deserted. The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria!"

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God**

**New Testament Reading:** **Romans 1:1-7**

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God**

*(please stand)*

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter.

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

**Gospel Reading:****Matthew 1:18-25**

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

***Sermon Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

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***Sermon***

(Please stand)

***The Nicene Creed***

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

Vicar: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Vicar: **Let us Pray**

### ***Prayer of the Church***

***Offertory - Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (Adult Choir 8am)***  
***Light a Candle (Children's Choir 10:30am)***

### ***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.

(Please stand)

## **The Service of the Sacrament**

### ***Preface***

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 salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord Almighty Father Everlasting God through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by the mystery of His death and resurrection has accomplished his wonderful work, calling us from the yoke of slavery to sin and death to receive the name of chosen race, royal priesthood, holy nation, and people of his own possession. 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***

People: **(singing) Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### ***Prayer of Thanksgiving***

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

P 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.**

### ***The Words of Our Lord***

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### ***Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)***

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C **And also with you.**

### ***The Sharing of the Peace***

### ***The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)***

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*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.*

### ***The Distribution***

We welcome to the Lord's Table all who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God, can examine themselves spiritually and believe they receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and as a profession of their faith. If you hold a profession of faith that differs from that of our congregation, please speak to the Pastor before the start of the service before communing.

- We believe the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine.
- We believe Christ offers the forgiveness of sins in the Lord's Supper, but that the Lord's Supper is not necessary for salvation.
- We believe the Lord's Supper remembers the death of Christ and proclaims his death until he returns.
- We believe the Lord's Supper is a statement of unity in the body of Christ; we do not believe it creates that unity.

During the distribution, you are encouraged to sing the Distribution Hymns, pray, or meditate on the words "this is my body... this is my blood, given for you."

The cups at the center of the Individual Communion tray contain diluted wine for those with alcohol sensitivities.

### ***Distribution Hymns***

<i>Son of God, Eternal Savior</i>	842
<i>Lord of All Hopefulness</i>	738
<i>Jesus Come Today with Healing</i>	620

(Please stand)

### ***Post Communion Canticle (sung)***

Thank the Lord and sing his praise, tell everyone what he has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls his promises and leads His people forth in joy  
With shouts of thanksgiving Alleluia! Alleluia!

### ***Post Communion Collect***

P Let us Pray

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

### ***Benediction***

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C Amen.**

***The Recessional: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*** 344

### ***Postlude***

## † *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	Rev. Eric Andrae
Vicar:	Joshua Ulm
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	John Gielarowski & Neil Ackerman
The Acolyte:	Joey Ackerman (8:00) Lara Luedeman (10:30)
The Greeters:	Shane & Sandy Bryant (8:00) Robb & Alaina Oelschlager (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:	Carrie Lemonovich, Jenna & Stephanie Eckels

## **Last Week in Worship**


Sunday Worship Attendance (12/11) – 180

Wednesday Attendance (12/14) – 43

Sunday Offering (12/11) – \$3,255.00

~Online giving is now available by going to the Zion web site: [www.zlcb.org](http://www.zlcb.org)~

# Week of Dec.18<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>

<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>12/18</b>	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 – Stephen Ministry 11:45 AM – Events Committee Meeting
<b>MONDAY</b> <b>12/19</b>	
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>12/20</b>	7:00 PM – Choir Practice
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>12/21</b>	6:00 PM – Advent Dinner 7:00 PM – Advent Service
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>12/22</b>	10:00 AM – Bible Study
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>12/23</b>	
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>12/24</b>	7:00 PM – Christmas Eve Service
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>12/25</b>	9:00 AM – Worship w/Communion Merry Christmas! 



**T is for THANKFUL**.....for OUR CHILDREN who shared the Gospel so beautifully, THEIR PARENTS who encouraged and enabled them to do so, OUR VOLUNTEERS who donated time and talent behind the scenes, OUR AUDIENCE who valued and enjoyed hearing the Word of God from Zion's youngest, ...and GOD OUR FATHER, who so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

***“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,  
which is Christ the Lord.”***

*Luke 2:11*

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS!**

A Bible Study for Teen Girls

# Seamless

Understanding the  
Bible as One Complete Story



angie smith

Who: Girls 7th grade and up

Begins: Sunday, January 8th

Time: 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Sign up: Use the sign-up sheet in the sanctuary or email

Katie Gielarowski @ [sundayschool@zlcg.com](mailto:sundayschool@zlcg.com)

LiEdBy | Girls

**Operation:**

**Bags of Love**

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

**Help make our 5<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am.

(Letterhead and drawing pages are available in the Narthex, school lobby and on the Sunday school tab at [www.zlcb.org](http://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.org](http://www.operationstarsandstripes.org).