

# Zion Lutheran Church



January 5<sup>th</sup> 2019  
*Service of Prayer & Preaching*

## Service of Prayer & Preaching

*Donation information is found in the back of the bulletin and may be placed in the narthex*

### Opening Versicles

**L** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**L** This is the day which the Lord has made;

**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

**C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

**C** Teach me Your paths.

**L** Sanctify us in Your truth.

**C** Your Word is truth.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C** 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.

### Readings From Holy Scripture

#### Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.  
And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from afar,  
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and exult,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Ephesians 3:1-12**

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Matthew 2:1-12**

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsory**

**L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

## Sermon

## Prayer

**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## **Collect for the Word**

**L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **Blessing**

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C Amen.**

## **Service Participants**

Preacher: Rev. Aleksey Streltsov, Rector, Novisbirsk Lutheran Seminary

Lector: Rev. Dr. Timothy Quill, Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Edward O. Grimenstein, Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Bridgeville



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