

Zion Lutheran Church



December 20th, 2020
Fourth Sunday in Advent



Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool!

Thank you for joining us in worship of the Lord. We would love to get to know you, and for you to learn more about our church family at Zion. We cordially invite you to talk with Pastor Grimenstein, our Elders, or any of our church members to learn more about our fellowship. At our website -- zlcb.org – you can find out more about the many worship, Christian education, and fellowship opportunities at Zion.

Communion Statement

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, Christ's physical body and blood are present in the bread and wine (1Cor. 11:23-25). We also believe receiving the Lord's Supper is an act of church fellowship. Scripture cautions that those who receive without recognizing Christ's body and blood will bring judgment upon themselves (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Therefore, out of love to our guests, we invite to our altar those who are baptized, confirmed, repentant members of Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod congregations or sister congregations. Visitors desiring to commune are asked to please announce their intentions to an elder or pastor. Everyone is welcome to sing the hymns during communion as we contemplate Christ's mercy to us.

In preparation to receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner please consider reading "Christian Questions with their Answers" on Page 329-330. If you are interested in exploring membership, please talk with Pastor Grimenstein after the service, or call the church office.

Opening Hymn – O Come, O come, Emmanuel

#357



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
 all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
 tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
 give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Refrain
 Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heav'nly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 And close the path to misery. Refrain

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
 And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 In one the hearts of all mankind;
 Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
 And be Thyself our King of Peace.
 Refrain

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit



P Let the clouds rain down | righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation may | bear fruit.

C The heavens declare the glory of God, and proclaim his | handiwork.
In them he has set a tent | for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.
Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of them,
and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P Let the clouds rain down | righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation may | bear fruit.

Kyrie

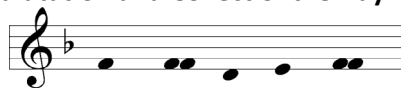


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

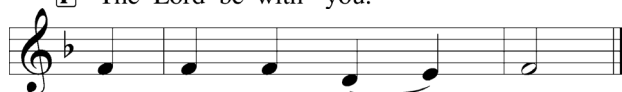


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

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.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading -- 2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . .

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir – *Advent Comfort* (8 am)

Epistle Reading – Romans 16:25–27

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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

Hymn of the Day – The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came #356



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

Sermon

Faith Bell Choir – *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* (8 am)

Prayer of the Church

P ... Lord in your mercy.

C ... Hear our prayer.



Service of the Sacrament

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



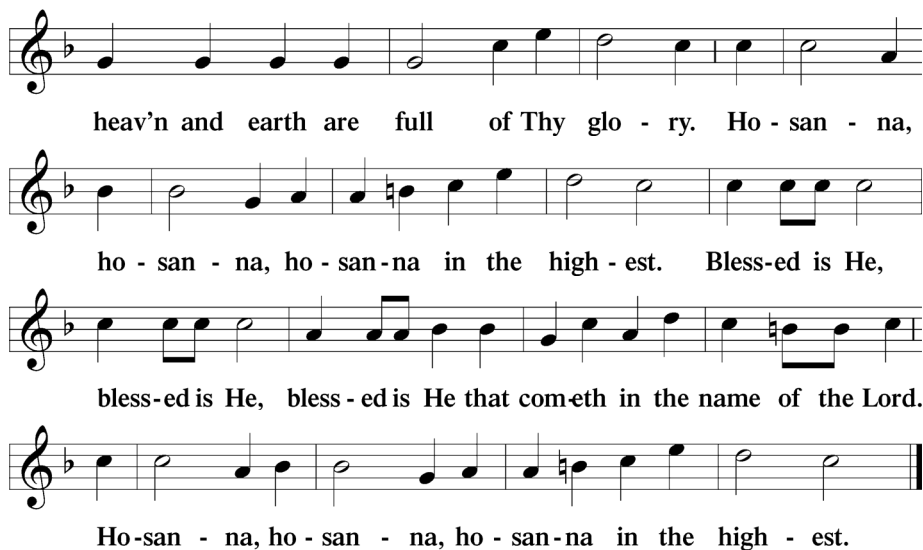
C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

- 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

- P** 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 $\cdot\ddagger$ 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 $\cdot\ddagger$ 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



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



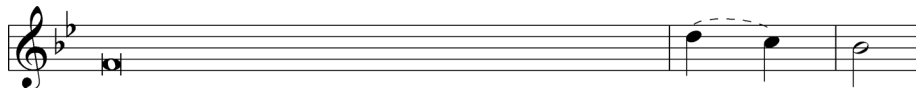
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

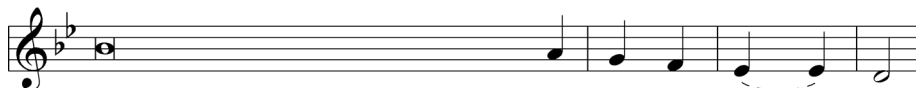
Distribution Hymns

Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come	#350
Arise, O Christian People	#354
Great Is Thy Faithfulness	#809

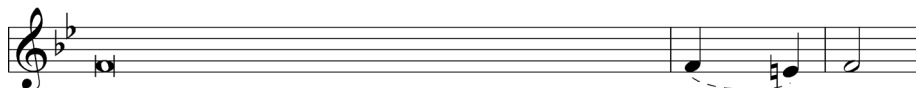
Te Deum



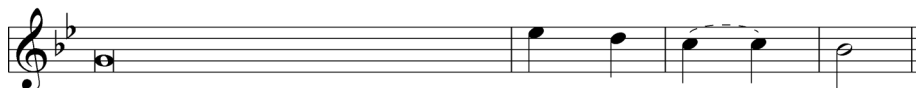
- 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
3 The noble army of martyrs praise — You.



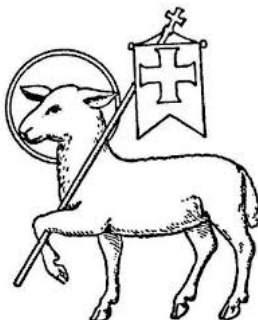
- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:

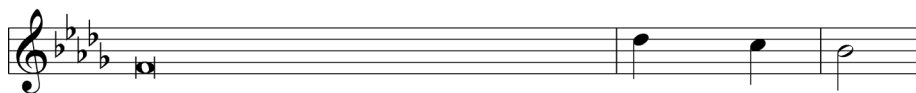


- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
2 The glorious company of the apostles praise — You.
3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
4 You are the king of glory, O — Christ;



- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
2 The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise — You.
3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com-fort - er.
4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.

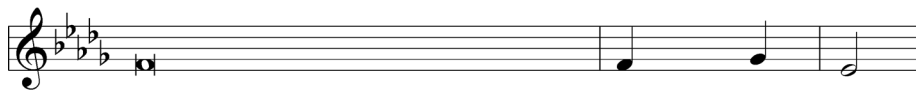




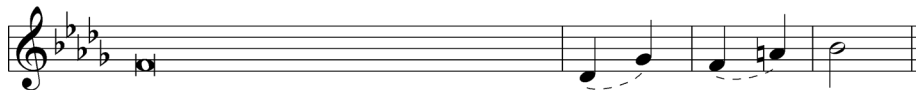
5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



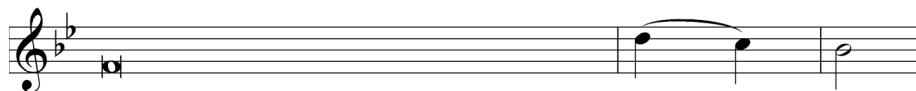
5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come



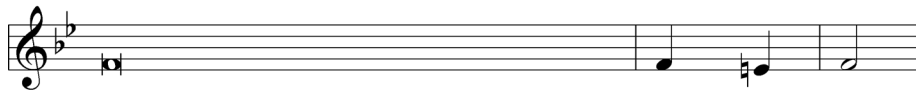
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be our judge.



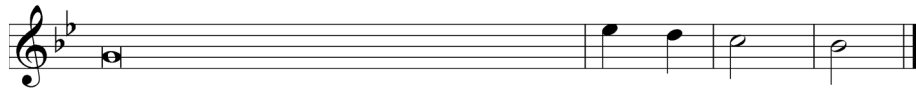
7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.

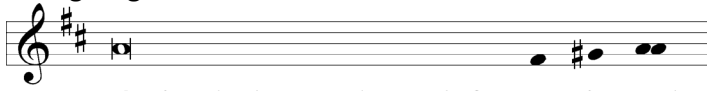


7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints

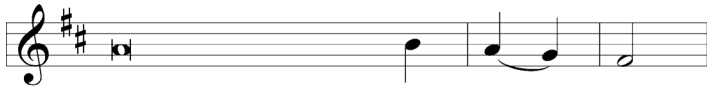


7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.

Thanksgiving



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

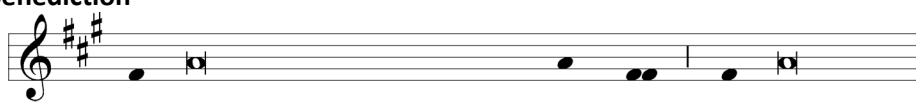


A Bless we the Lord.

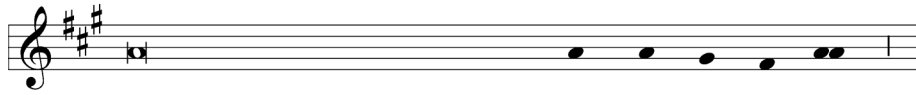


C Thanks be to God.

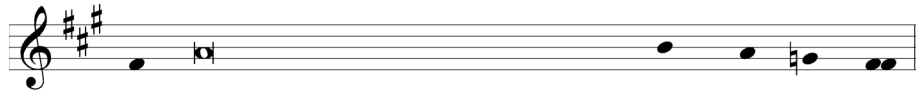
Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.



Closing Hymn –Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

#336



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Prayer Requests for Family & Friends

The Church:

-**For our homebound members:** Tom Bicusky, Florence Boehme, Lois Dittmer, Dolores Preaux, Joan Cisco, Lois Sauro, and Dottie Heslop.

-**Healing for:** Millie Thielet, Jim Neill, Pastor Wayne Hoffman, Jean Walker, Debra Green, Peter Fisher, Mamie Papeaka, Carol Wuerthele, Ruth Rostron, Patti Neill, Judy Graziano, Alyssa Mance, Shannon Mance, Darlene Pirmez, Elias Kazas, Janet Hickey, Marian Siek, Joyce Wood, Don and Deana Thielet, Dave Hutula, Ron Valentino, Norma Dyson, Mabel Granke, Mary Reihing, and Jennifer Meyer.

-**For our missions/missionaries,** especially Pastor Wokoma and The Siberian Lutheran Mission Society.

-For all who care for loved ones with illnesses.

-For the ministry of Zion Lutheran Sunday School and Preschool.

The World:

-For an end to the pandemic, and for the safety of all who are fighting it.

-For an end to abortion and human trafficking.

-For the youth in our community.

Our Nation:

-For our leaders and government officials.

-For those in foster care and those looking to adopt.

-For the disabled, unborn and aged.

-For those whose work it is to protect us.

-For godly care of the earth.

† *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandy Quinlan
The Elders:	John Gielarowski, Mike Wallace
The Acolyte:	Decklan Pasquini (8:00) Christian Bonacci (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Janet & Marian Oelschlager
Ushers:	Bill & Ken Schrag Shane Bryant, Tim Sheldon (8:00) Mike Kozak, Anna Gresh John Lemonovich, Susie Bishop (10:30)

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by the Klemash family in honor of loved ones.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by Wayne & Kathleen Conn in memory of Jim & Norma Lynch.

A PRELUDE OF SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC will be played prior to the start of each Christmas Eve Worship Service. The afternoon prelude will begin at 2:30 pm; evening prelude at 6:30 pm. Come early to enjoy the beautiful sounds of this holy season!



2021 MEMBER CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES & SPONSORSHIPS FOR ALTAR FLOWERS/ETERNAL LIGHT are available on the long table in the back of the sanctuary. Please take your envelopes, as well as those of any family members or friends who may not be attending church at this time!

Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (12/13) – 39 (8 am); 46 (10:30 am)
Advent Mid-Week Worship Attendance (12/16) – 26
Saturday Worship Attendance (12/12) -- 11
Sunday Offering (12/13) – \$4561 Online Offering – \$1454.28

The Week Ahead at Zion

SUNDAY 12/20	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion Youth Group assembles luminaria in Fellowship Hall (Indoor Safety Guidelines will be followed)
MONDAY 12/21	6:00 PM – 1 st year Confirmation Class 6:15 PM – Grace Bell Choir 7:00 PM – 2 nd year Confirmation Class 7:15 PM – Adult Choir 8:15 PM – Faith Bell Choir
TUESDAY 12/22	
WEDNESDAY 12/23	
Christmas Eve THURSDAY 12/24	3:00 PM – Christmas Eve Service – Limited Seating. RSVP at www.signupgenius.com or call Susie at 412-977-9066. 7:00 PM – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Christmas Day FRIDAY 12/25	10:00 AM – Christmas Day Service
SATURDAY 12/26	
SUNDAY 12/27	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion



Christmas at Zion

In an effort to provide a *Worship Service* for those with pre-existing medical conditions and those who are unable to drive at night, we are offering a 3:00pm Christmas Eve Service with limited seating (70 persons max).

As of this past week, the early sign-up period has passed, and the 3:00 service is now open to all congregation members for sign-up. You may sign up at www.signupgenius.com or call Susie at the church office.

*As a reminder, there will be 3 opportunities for
Christmas Worship at Zion:*

- 3:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship (Limited Seating, Sign-Up only)
 - 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
 - 10:00 am Christmas Day Worship

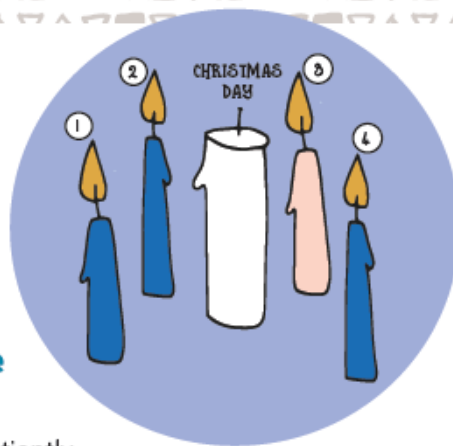
KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What does it mean when four candles have been lit on the Advent wreath?

You've been preparing and patiently waiting for that wonderful day of celebration. When four of the candles on the Advent wreath have been lit, it means that Christmas is almost here! That's right! The day on which we remember the birth of our Savior is right around the corner!

What does this mean to me?

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Advent. Today is the last Sunday of preparation for the birth of Jesus. Next week the Church will celebrate Christmas Day, one of the most important days of the whole year. As you can see, Advent has prepared us for the coming of Jesus, our wonderful Savior from sin!



Parents:

Remind your children of the important part that Advent plays in the lives of all Christians. This is the time in the Church Year that prepares us for the coming of our Savior. Be sure to bring your children to both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.



