

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



Christmas Day Worship

December 25, 2011



ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 25, 2011



The **Altar Flowers** have been given to the Glory of God by the Klemash Family in memory of their loved ones and by Jack & Jacque Oelschlager in memory of their loved ones

The **Eternal Light** is lit to the Glory of God by Judith & Andrew Dames in memory of Paula and Gregory.

We will be having services at 7:00 p.m. on **New Year's Eve** and at 8:00 am and 10:30 am on **New Year's Day**. There will be no Sunday School or Bible Class on New Year's Day.

Junior high and high school youth are invited to AMF Mt Lebanon on Saturday, January 14 from 2-4 for **Youth Bowling!** Cost will be under \$10.00, including food. Please RSVP to pastor@zlcg.org or tharris@zlcg.org.

Please remember to pick up your **2012 offering envelopes** from the table in the back. You may also sign up to sponsor the Eternal Light or Altar Flowers for 2012.

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2011

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

Weren't we just here? What could possibly have changed since our celebration of the birth of Jesus last night? Nothing. Absolutely nothing. And that's the point!

Jesus is still living! The birth we celebrated last night has become the life that has set us free! We now pick up singing where the angels left off. We are the ones praising God instead of shepherds. And God is revealing his Son to us, in a way very similar to how he was revealed to Mary and Joseph on that first Christmas: as a miracle baby.

There are still more hymns to sing. There is still more to the story!

Let us continue our songs of praise we began last night, for Christ our Savior is born!

A very Merry Christmas to all...

-Pastor Duncan

Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor
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Website: www.zlcb.org

Darren Elikor, Pastoral Assistant
Office Phone: 412-221-4776
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The Divine Service

The Prelude

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books. Thank you!!)

Introduction to Worship and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Pastor: Father in heaven, this morning we gather together to celebrate the birth of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, whose birth has not only changed the course of human history, but has personally changed and saved our lives. Thank you for sending your son for us. Give us the privilege of worshipping him in spirit and truth.

People: **Amen**

Opening Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing 380

The Invocation

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

People: **Amen.**

(Matthew 28:18-20)

Confession and Absolution

(Hebrews 10:22)

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, before we listen to your Word and receive your body and blood in the Lord's Supper, we confess to you that we have not been the holy people you have called us to be. We have served ourselves more than we have served you or our neighbor. We have worried about things beyond our control instead of trusting in you. We have been quick-tempered and hard-hearted, unforgiving and harsh.

People: **Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us for these and all of our sins. Restore us to a right relationship with you. Be patient with us, strengthen our faith and remove the temptations**

from us that we cannot overcome. Give us an increase of the Holy Spirit, that we may bring glory to your name. Amen.

(Luke 18:13)

The Absolution (spoken by the Pastor)

People: Amen.

(John 20:19-23)

The Hymn of Praise: Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

374

The Prayer of the Church

Pastor: ... Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

The Service of the Word

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10

Those who speak in the name of the Lord speak good news!

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Choir - Good Christians All Rejoice (10:30)

The New Testament Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-6

Jesus, the newborn infant, is the image of God, and has created all there is.

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"?

Or again, "[I] will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew the 1st chapter.

People: **Glory to Thee, O Lord!**

The Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

The angel of the Lord announces to Joseph that the Christ will be born.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord has spoken by the

prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: (sing) **Praise be to thee, O Christ!**

(Please be seated)

Children's Message (10:30)

The Sermon Hymn: Once in Royal David's City

376

Sermon

(Please stand)

The Creed: Nicene Creed

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.

(Please be seated)

The Collection of the Offering

Choir Offertory – The First Noel (10:30)

(Please stand)

The Service of the Sacrament

Pastor: This morning we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, changing our fate and the destiny of the entire human race. Christ came, and it changed everything. This morning, Christ comes again. He comes to us in the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper, which are his body and blood. He dwells among us and changes our fate, giving us eternal salvation. As we approach the Lord's Table, may our Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Sanctus (Tune: As with Gladness)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts, by all adored
Heav'n and earth cannot contain all the glory of your Name!
With the heavenly host we sing Highest praises to our King

Hail! Hosanna! Endless fame be to Him who, in God's name,
Now draws nigh with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel!
Hail! Hosanna! Praises be to the Lord eternally!

The Words of Institution

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

The Sharing of the Peace

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

163

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, grant us peace.

(Please be seated until it is your time to commune.)

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

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear	366
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	359
O Little Town of Bethlehem	361

(Please stand)

Post-Communion Canticle: (Tune: “Angels from the Realm of Glory)

Thank the Lord, His praises voicing for His promised faithfulness!
All who seek the Lord, rejoicing tell His love, His Name confess
For He leads us, with thanksgiving in the paths of righteousness.

At Your Word, Lord, let Your servant go in peace, for with my eyes
I have seen Your bright salvation, Israel’s Light, begin to rise
As the glory of the nations leading us to paradise.

Benediction

Pastor: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead
our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of
the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you
may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his
sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

People: **Amen!**

The Recessional: Go Tell It On the Mountain

388



† *Service Participants* †

The Officiant:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
Pastoral Assistant:	Darren Elikier
The Organist:	Paula Gardner
The Elders:	David Hutula & Ken Wuerthele
The Acolytes:	Missy Radovich & Grant Geregach
The Greeters:	Brent & Marianne Miller, & Millie Thielet and Dick & Carolyn Wible
The Ushers:	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag, Janet & Larry Zreliak and Steve Gauger, Dan Harris, Loren Luedeman, & Jim Oelschlager
Altar Guild:	Janet, Marian, & Molly Oelschlager



WEEK OF December 25-January 1, 2011

SUNDAY 12/25	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion
MONDAY 12/26	
TUESDAY 12/27	
WEDNESDAY 12/28	7:00 PM – Bible Study
THURSDAY 12/29	10:00 AM – Bible Study 7:00 PM – Choir Practice
FRIDAY 12/30	
SATURDAY 12/31 NEW YEAR'S EVE!	7:00 PM – New Year's Eve Service
SUNDAY 1/1 NEW YEAR'S DAY!	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion

OUR ATTENDANCE:	Advent Three 12/14	53
	Sunday 12/18	184
	Bible Class 12/18	57
OUR OFFERINGS:	Advent Three 12/14	\$478.00
	Sunday 12/18	\$4,360.50
	Year to Date	\$126,005.74