

# Zion Lutheran Church



December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Third 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. Please stop by our welcome table as you leave worship. 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 -- **zlcg.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 (1 Cor. 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 to receive the Lord's Supper those who are baptized, confirmed, repentant members of Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod congregations or sister congregations. If you are visiting us today from another Christian denomination, we welcome you to come to the altar to receive a baptismal blessing. Please signify by crossing your arms over your chest upon kneeling.

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 or call the church office.

### **Our Worship**

Our worship services are based on traditional church liturgies in which God speaks to us in His Word and we respond to Him. These liturgies were used by the early church almost 2000 years ago and are rich in scriptural meaning, connecting us to our past -- and future -- in Christ Jesus. There is a depth to Lutheran worship that can take time to appreciate, thus you may find that you don't understand everything that is happening the first week you visit. That's OK, we encourage you to keep visiting!

## Opening Hymn – Hark the Glad Sound #349



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Text and tune: Public domain

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

**C** Amen.

### Service of the Word

Introit -- Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4



**P** Rejoice in the Lord | always;  
again I will say, | Rejoice.

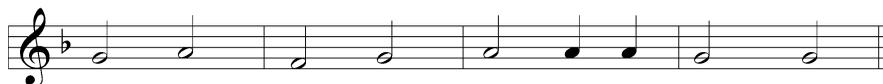
**C** I will hope con- | tinually  
and will praise you yet | more and more.  
My mouth will tell of your righteous acts | all the day,  
for their number is past my | knowledge.  
With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD | I will come;  
I will remind them of your righteousness, | yours alone.  
O God, from my youth you have | taught me,  
and I still proclaim your | wondrous deeds.  
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** Rejoice in the Lord | always;  
again I will say, | Rejoice.

### 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.



**G** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**G** A - men.

## 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.

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

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

**Choir – O Come, Emmanuel (10:30 am)**

**Epistle Reading – James 5:7–11**

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.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Alleluia



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

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.”

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



**C** 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

# Hymn of the Day – Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

#345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is  
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the  
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with  
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the  
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the  
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all  
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with  
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us  
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"  
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;  
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.  
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## Offertory



☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Offering plates are located on the tables at the main and side entrances to the sanctuary.*

### Prayer of the Church

**P** ... Lord in your mercy.

**C** ... Hear our prayer.

### Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.



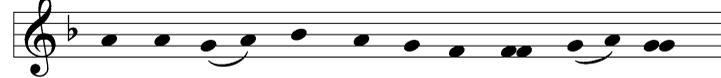
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**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,



bles - ed is He, bles - 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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



**C** 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**

*If you are visiting us today from a Christian denomination outside the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we welcome you to come to the altar to receive a baptismal blessing. Please signify by crossing your arms over your chest upon kneeling.*

**Distribution Hymns**

- |                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</b> | <b>#338</b> |
| <b>When All the World Was Cursed</b>  | <b>#346</b> |
| <b>Comfort, Comfort Ye My People</b>  | <b>#347</b> |

**Nunc Dimittis**

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

### Thanksgiving

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

**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**P** Let us pray.

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.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

## Benedicamus



**A** Bless we the Lord.



**G** 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.



**G** A-men, a-men, a - men.



*Closing hymn on next page ...*

## Closing Hymn –Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

#398



1 Hail to the Lord’s a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid’s great - er Son!  
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,  
3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;  
5 O’er ev - ’ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!  
To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.  
All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.  
From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,  
To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,  
Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;  
The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.  
Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.  
And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.  
His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A kingdom with - out end.  
His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

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## Prayer Requests for Family & Friends

### *The Church:*

-**For our homebound members:** Tom Bicusky, Florence Boehme, Lois Dittmer, Dottie Heslop, Gladys Cimarolli, Ron Valentino, Ted & Marian Siek.

-**Healing & Strength for:** Jack Ewing, Barbara Libengood, Jim and Lisa Kress, Rose Steranko, Dan, Larry and Fran W., Tom Carthy, Millie Thielet, Jen Fitzgerald, Barbara & Kara Koski, Mike Wallace, Darrell Molinari, Joanne Garloff, Neil Ackerman, Richard Hultman, Rita Sheldon, Dennis Finney, Pastor Bob McCanless, Eva Bukovitz, Kami Snow, Judy Graziano, Alyssa Mance, Shannon Mance, Dave Hutula, and Mabel Granke.

-**For our missions/missionaries,** especially Rev. Phil & Deaconess Rachel Jaseph and The Siberian Lutheran Mission Society.

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

### *The World:*

-For peace in Ukraine.

-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.



## † Service Participants †

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
Organist:	Sandy Quinlan
The Elders:	Roger Diederich, Bob Schmidt (8:00); Bill Bishop, Jim Neill (10:30)
The Acolyte:	Claire Schrag (8:00) Callista Chilcott (10:30)
The Ushers:	Jason Trentini, Bill, Ken & Will Schrag (8:00) Susie Bishop, Mike Kozak, John & Luke Lemonovich (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Janet & Marian Oelschlager, Barb Oechslein

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Elsie Dalla Piazza in memory of Irene Bourg; and by Michael & Deborah Sterba in memory of Vince Kimberland.

**ETERNAL LIGHT** is given by Megan Richards in memory of her mother, Luella Rilius.



**ANGEL TREE GIFTS** are due today! Please place yours under the tree in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for helping to make Christmas brighter for families in need!

**2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES & SPONSORSHIPS FOR ALTAR FLOWERS/ETERNAL LIGHT** are available in the back of the sanctuary. All members have envelopes, except those who regularly contribute online.



**OUR FINAL MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICES** are this Wednesday at 2 & 7 pm. Join us as we prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of our Savior!

### Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (12/4) – 61 (8 am); 78 (10:30 am)

Mid-Week Advent Worship Attendance (12/7) – 22 (2 pm); 28 (7 pm)

Sunday Plate Offerings (12/4) – \$2736 Online Offering – \$2375

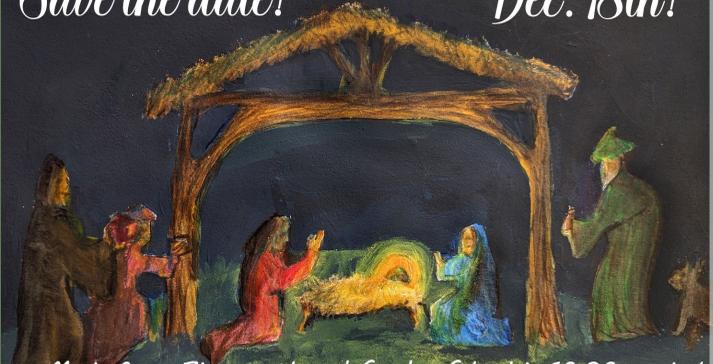
Online giving is available on Zion's website at [www.zlcb.org/donate](http://www.zlcb.org/donate)

## *This Week at Zion*

<b>SUN</b> <b>12/11</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	8:00 AM – Worship 9:15 AM – Adult/Teen Bible Study & Children's SS 10:30 AM – Worship 6:00 PM – Ladies Dinner & Ornament Exchange (Napoli Restaurant)
<b>MON</b> <b>12/12</b>	6:00 PM – 1 <sup>st</sup> Year Confirmation 6:15 PM – Grace Bells 7:00 PM – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation 7:15 PM – Choir 8:15 PM – Faith Bells
<b>TUE</b> <b>12/13</b>	
<b>WED</b> <b>12/14</b>	2:00 PM – Advent Service – Week 3 7:00 PM – Advent Service – Week 3
<b>THU</b> <b>12/15</b>	
<b>FRI</b> <b>12/16</b>	
<b>SAT</b> <b>12/17</b>	
<b>SUN</b> <b>12/18</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	8:00 AM – Worship 9:15 AM – Adult/Teen Bible Study & Children's SS Christmas Party 10:30 AM – Worship SS Christmas Video immediately following both services 11:45 AM – Youth Assemble Luminaria (pizza lunch)

*Save the date!*

*Dec. 18th!*



*Music from Zion youth and Sunday School in 10:30 service!  
Sunday School Christmas video shown after both services!  
Children's Christmas party during Sunday School hour!*

*Cecilia Schuss*



## **There will be three opportunities for Christmas worship at Zion:**

- Christmas Eve service at 2 pm
- Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7 pm
- Christmas Day service at 10 am

### **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 1:30 pm; evening prelude at 6:00 pm.  
Come early to enjoy the beautiful sounds of this holy season!



## This Week in Zion Sunday School

A recap of today's SS teaching for parents & students

### BIBLE VERSE

[Jesus says,] "If anyone thirsts,  
let him come to Me and drink."

John 7:37

### SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT

Having moved their camp from the wilderness of Sin to Rephidim, the Israelites face a new challenge—no water. Despite His daily food supply, the people doubt God's ability to provide water for them and their livestock. Moses cries out to the Lord, who instructs him to strike the rock with his staff. Moses does so and water pours out, providing all that the people need.

### TAKING IT HOME

- ▶ *On the Go*—In the Bible account, the Israelites grumbled and didn't trust God to provide for them. What do you grumble about? What has God done that reminds you that you can trust Him?
- ▶ *At Meal Time*—God provided water for His people from a rock. Talk about all the things we use water for today and how God provides for us.
- ▶ *Something to Do*—Search for rocks near a local playground, park, or stream. Collect a few to take home. Write "Psalm 18:2" on each rock, and give one to each family member as a reminder that God is your rock, fortress, and deliverer.
- ▶ *Before Bed*—Pray together, asking God to help you be thankful and not grumble. Thank Him for sending Jesus to satisfy our need for a Savior.





# JOIN US FOR CONCORDIA'S NINTH ANNUAL LIVE NATIVITY

Sunday, December 11

148 Marwood Rd., Cabot, PA 16023  
(Entrance #5, Haven II)

Performances at 4:30, 5:15 and 6 p.m.

- *Featuring Concordia staff and residents*
- *Live animals*
- *Hot beverages and refreshments*
- *Gift for children 12 and under*
- *Live Christmas music*
- *Free admission*

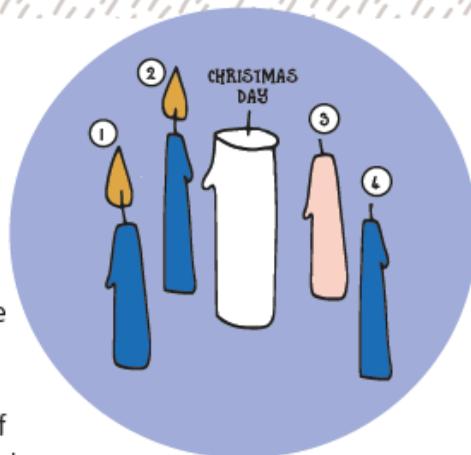
This will be a "walk-through" nativity, so guests are encouraged to dress warmly. Parking at entrances 5 and 6. For more information, call 724-352-1571, ext. 8268 or visit [www.concordialm.org](http://www.concordialm.org).



# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

## What is the Advent wreath?

The Advent wreath is the circle of candles (and/or evergreen branches) that you see in the sanctuary during the season of Advent. Some Advent wreaths hang from the ceiling of the sanctuary while others are placed on a floor stand. Either way, the Advent wreath is one of the many beautiful things you'll see around the church during Advent.



## How do we use the advent wreath?

It used to be that the Advent wreath was used in the home to help count the four weeks of Advent. Now you can find them in homes as well as in the church sanctuary. Each Sunday in Advent, a new candle on the wreath is lit. For example, during the first week in Advent, only one candle is lit. During the second week in Advent, two candles are lit. We do this to remember and prepare for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!



**Parents:** Before or after the Divine Service, allow your children to walk up to get a better look at the Advent wreath. Remind them to be reverent in God's holy places. During this Advent season, try utilizing an Advent wreath at home with family devotions. If you are unsure how to get started, ask your pastor for help.



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