

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

9:00 am Sunday, December 19, 2021

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who **believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them**, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

✠ = *appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross*
When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

Greeting And Announcements: *The Lord be with you!* **And also with you!**

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution

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.

[*Kneel*]

Our help is in the name of the Lord **Who made heaven and earth.**
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord. **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

O almighty God, merciful Father; 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.

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. **Amen!**

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

Introit



[Antiphon] *My soul magni- | fies the Lord, || and my spirit rejoices in | God my Sav-__ |*
ior.

Verse 1 : **My mouth derides my | e- ne- mies, || because I rejoice in | your sal-va-__ |**
tion.

Verse 2 : *There is none holy | like the Lord; || there is none besides you; there is no | rock*
like our__ | God.

Verse 3 : **There barren | has borne •seven•, || but she who has many | chil- dren is**
for- | lorn.

Verse 4 : *The Lord kills and | brings to life; || he brings down to She- | ol and rais- es |*
up.

Verse 5 : **The Lord makes poor | and makes rich; || he brings | low and he ex- | alts.**

Gloria: **Glorify be to the Father and | to the Son: || and | to the Ho- ly | •Spirit•;**
As it was in the be- | •ginning•, is now, || and will | be for- •ever• A- |
men!

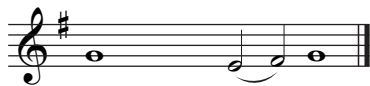
[Antiphon] **My soul magni- | fies the Lord, || and my spirit rejoices in | God my Sav-__**
| ior.

Kyrie



Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Advent: *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.*



A ——— men!

Collect for Advent: *Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A ——— men!

[Be Seated] **+ The Office of the Word of God +**

Old Testament Reading..... Micah 5:2-5a

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Epistle of the Day Hebrews 10:5-10

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

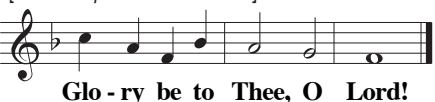
[Rise] **Alleluia Sequence**

[Deacon] *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel. Alleluia!*

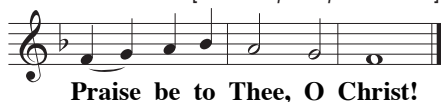


Holy Gospel St. Luke 1:39-56

[The Gospel is announced.]



[The Gospel is proclaimed.]



Confession of Faith (The 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

[Bow] 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 worshipped 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!

[Be Seated]

Hymn of the Day O Come, O Come Burgundy Hymn 357

[All sing stanzas 1 & 2; Men alone sing stanzas 3 & 5; Women alone sing stanzas 4 & 6; All sing stanza 7.]

Sermon

[Rise] **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs: [After each petition]:..., Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

[After the final prayer]:..., one God, now and forever **Amen.**

[Be Seated] **Offerings, Voluntary**

[Rise] **Offertory Hymn Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**



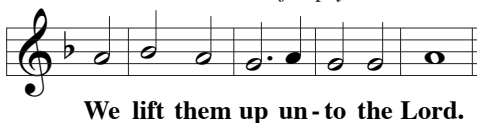


+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

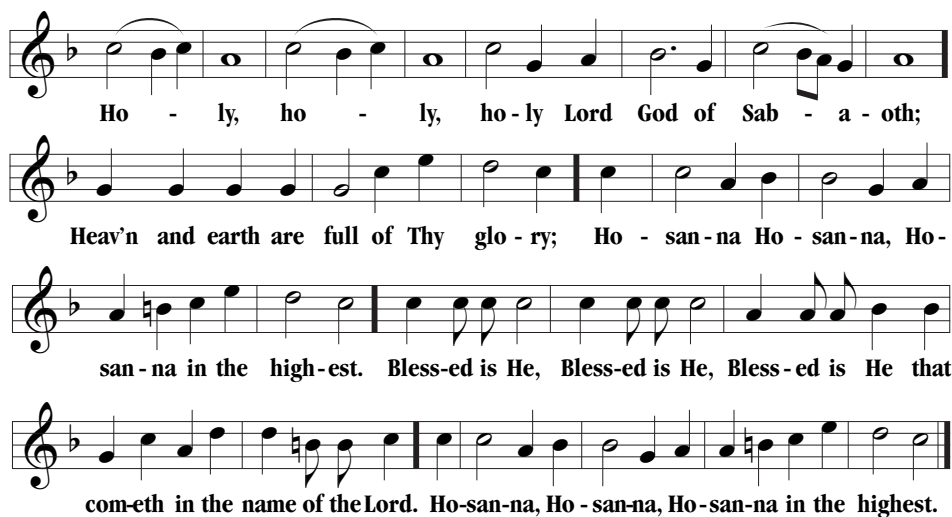


Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

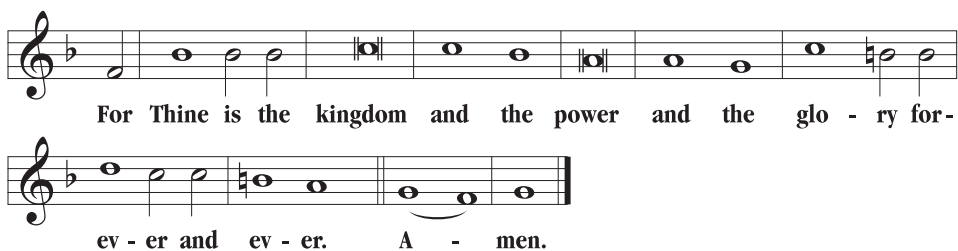


Proper Preface for Advent, Sanctus

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:



[Kneel] **Lord's Prayer** [Pastor chants:] *Our Father who art ... but deliver us from evil.*

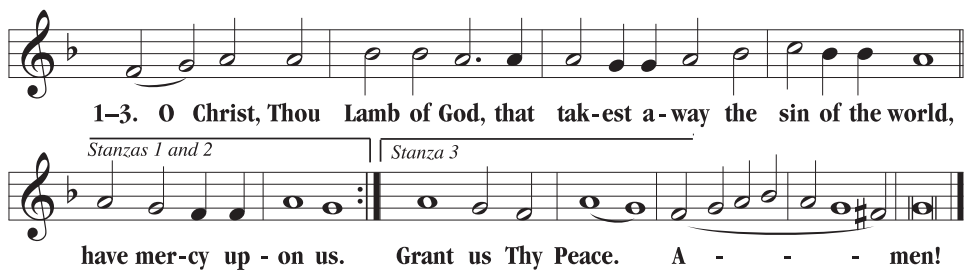


Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Agnus Dei



1-3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world,
Stanzas 1 and 2 | Stanza 3
have mer-cy up - on us. Grant us Thy Peace. A - - - men!

[Be Seated]

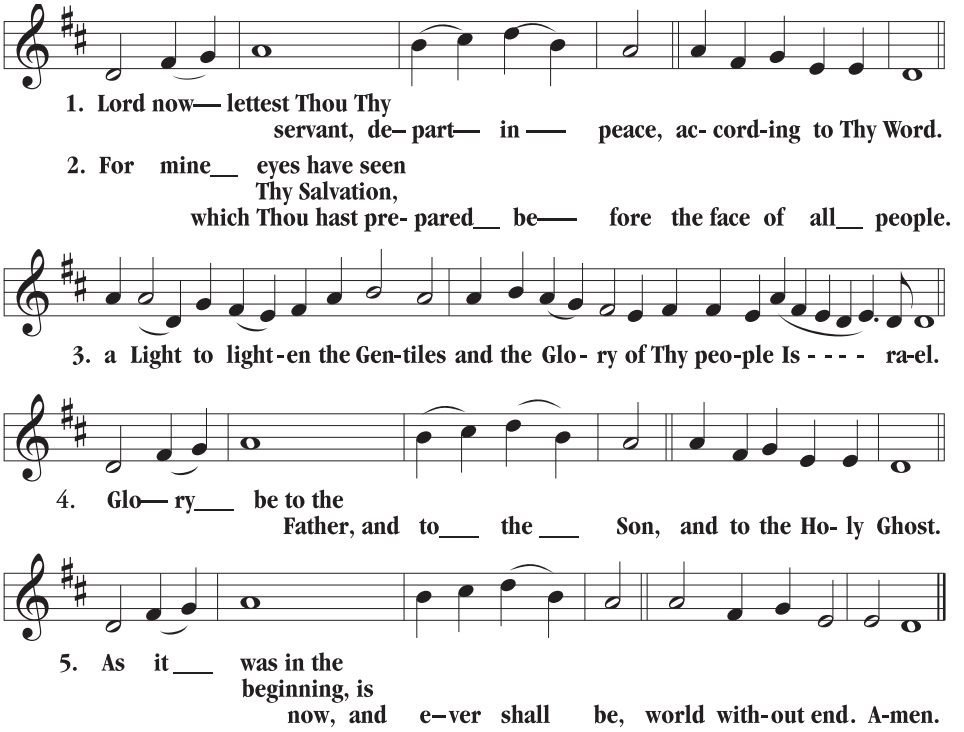
Distribution Hymns O Little Town of Bethlehem Burgundy Hymn 361
[Sung to the tune, "Forest Green".]

What Hope! An Eden Prophesied .. Burgundy Hymn 342

Eucharistic Benediction

The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ✠ Depart in Peace! Amen!

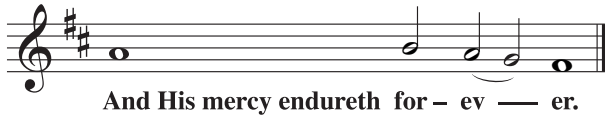
Post-Communion Canticle The Nunc Dimittis



1. Lord now— lettest Thou Thy
servant, de- part— in — peace, ac- cord- ing to Thy Word.
2. For mine__ eyes have seen
Thy Salvation,
which Thou hast pre- pared__ be— fore the face of all__ people.
3. a Light to light-en the Gen- tles and the Glo- ry of Thy peo- ple Is - - - ra- el.
4. Glo— ry__ be to the
Father, and to__ the __ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.
5. As it__ was in the
beginning, is
now, and e- ver shall be, world with- out end. A- men.

Post Communion Rite

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



And His mercy endureth for - ev — er.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



A — men.

The Lord be with you.



Bless we the Lord.



Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn Tell Out My Soul Burgundy Hymn 935

Postlude

Oh, Rejoice, All Christians, Loudly!

**Come join us at Zion Lutheran Church
as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.**

- **Advent Services, Wednesdays at 7pm**
- **Christmas Eve Candelight Service of Lessons and Carols**
Featuring Choir, Brass, and Organ
Prelude begins at 6:30pm • Service begins at 7pm
- **Christmas Day Festival Service**
Featuring Choir, Brass, and Organ
Prelude begins at 8:45am • Service begins at 9am



2313 South Hanna Street at Creighton

Telephone 744-1389

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Readings for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

The Old Testament Reading is Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

And he shall be their peace.

The Epistle is Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said,
“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body have you prepared for me;
in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,
as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Gospel is Luke 1:39-56

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and

blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;

he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

as he spoke to our fathers,

to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Hymns for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

LSB357 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Latin, c. 12th cent.

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!
2. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*
3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*
4. O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*
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.*

LSB361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Phillips Brooks

1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!
3. How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

LSB342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

Stephen P. Starke

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1. What hope! An Eden prophesied Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side, Led by a little child!
2. A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem, A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem: The fruit of God's design.
3. As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world Would rally to the cross.
4. Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword — Come, open heaven's door.

LSB935 Tell Out My Soul

Timothy Dudley-Smith

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1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of His Word;
In God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy Name, the Lord, the Mighty One.
3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!
Pow'rs and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of His Word!
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forevermore!

The Fourth Sunday in Advent



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803260-744-1389

pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is to be the body of Christ gathered at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana to:

- Receive Christ's gifts in baptism, preaching, teaching, and the Eucharist;
- Reach out to those who do not know the love of God in Christ;
- Reveal Christ's love for the world through acts of kindness and mercy toward all.

The Pastoral Ministry At Zion

Senior Pastor
Field Worker:

Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)
Erik Saunders, Patrick Jackson

The Teaching Staff At Lutheran South Unity

Teachers:

Sheila Nehrenz, Principal (744-0459)
Gene Koch, Yvonne Schwantz, Barry Chrzan,
Danielle Ramsey, Merideth Tourney, 3rd vacant,
John Fink, Hannah Maresh, Cathie Wakeland, Natalie Reynolds

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:
Church Office Manager:

Michael Hollman, MM
Melvia Culpher

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church and those experiencing persecution around the world
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our fieldworkers Erik Saunders and Patrick Jackson
- + For our nation; for our leaders, our military, including Trevor Manning and James Hall, and our health care workers
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound, including Jackie Schieferstein, Juanita Moore, Everett Beck, Helen Russell, Cheryl Silvers, and Doris Yerger
- + For those who are near death
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Hailey & Aaleyah Horn, LCMS First VP Peter Lange, Lucille Brandt, Susan Kaiser, Kathy Vlot, Willodean Bates, Kevin Leininger, Julie Ganaway, Paul Dolde, Walt Ostermeyer, Sherry Freeman, Jeff Springer, Gloria Gonzalez, Willie Manning, Dick Hollman, Louisa Porter, Louise Petrillo, Marianne Billings, Warren & Joan Messman, Maurice King, Ron Rastl, Marlow Hogan, and Jenny Hobby
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit, including Jasha & Jaiseon Harrison
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, especially Vanessa Smith and Fred Hill.
- + For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Divine Service for the Fourth Sunday in Advent. The Cross Bowl is given in loving memory of Vanessa Smith, and the Altar Vases are given in loving memory of Fred Hill, both by DaVanna & David Seifert and family. The Baptismal Bud Vase is given in recognition of the baptism Jasha & Jaiseon Harrison by their grandmother TruLaine Starks. Please complete an attendance/communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

CALENDAR

December 19, 2021 thru December 25, 2021

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Study	Bauer Hall
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (little ones)	Assoc Pastor's Office
	10:30 AM	Junior Catechesis	Conference Room
MON.			
TUES.			
WED.	5:45 PM	Advent Supper	Bauer Hall
	7:00 PM	Advent Evening Prayer	Church
THURS.			
FRI.	6:30 PM	Preservice Music	Church
	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols	Church
SAT.	8:45 AM	Preservice Music	Church
	9:00 AM	Christmas Day Festival Service	Church

December 26, 2021

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Study — to be determined	Bauer Hall

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Dr. Voelz continues in the Gospel according to St. Mark in Bauer Hall. Junior Catechesis meets in the Conference Room. Sunday School for the little ones meets in the Associate Pastor's Office in the office area.

FLOWER CHART FOR 2022 is up and ready; so please feel free to stop and sign up for flowers.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY will be held right after Divine service today. Kevin will lead the Assembly, and he'll have an explanatory document and proposal for the Assembly. Please stay briefly for this meeting.

SACRED MUSIC AT ZION We'll gather for a half hour Christmas carol and hymn sing in advance of the season at 12 Noon today. Stay for Bible Class and then head up to the nave to sing.

ENVELOPES are in the Great Hall, ready for pick up. Please see Julie Ganaway for your new number and envelopes.

CHRISTMAS CHEER TO SHUT INS: Due to some of the COVID restriction at nursing homes we will not be doing fruit and cookies for the shut-ins. We all can, however, take time to send Christmas greetings to our brothers and sisters on the list in the bulletin. Thanks, Melvia.

IT'S TIME: if you're receiving *The Lutheran Witness*, it is renewal time; or if you would like to start receiving it, please make your \$19 checks out to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. Deadline is December 31.

DO NOT forget about Advent midweek services at 7 PM with an Advent meal at 5:45 PM. Seminarian Kyle Nelson is preaching this Wednesday.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES Lessons and Carols are Friday, December 24 at 7:PM (6:30 preservice); and the Festival Divine Service is Saturday, December 25 at 9 AM (8:45 preservice). Come celebrate the birth of our Savior.

A HEARTY THANK YOU to all who contributed to the Seminary Food Co-Op.

COVID-19 UPDATE AT ZION: *Please read this update if you want information on COVID. I'm not making oral comments regarding COVID unless some protocol needs changing.* The state website is tardy again. Yes, Allen County is in the red. Our two-metric score is 3.0. Happily, the county positivity rate has decreased to 15.6% as of 12/7, and weekly cases per 100,000 residents is down to 542 (12/12). The hospital census is down slightly, but still at December 2020 levels. It's mainly for the sake of our hospitals and hospital workers that we want to keep the positivity rate low — so that they're not overwhelmed. The seven-day average daily deaths due to COVID is at 2 again. The Delta variant remains the main culprit at 96.1% — Omicron is not a worry now. The percentages of breakthrough infections, hospitalizations, and deaths continue to increase slowly. They're now 2.417%, 0.049%, and 0.026%, respectively. These numbers probably underestimate the number of breakthroughs, but even if that's so by half, the vaccines are still very effective, and there is little evidence of side effects. If you haven't done so, please consider being vaccinated and/or boosted. Visit www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/ for your eligibility and to schedule your vaccine or booster.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE Salvation is only through faith in Christ Jesus; that's God's purpose for the Scripture ... that we may believe: John 20:31— "But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." Last week's verse was Ephesians 5:1-2.

CAFETERIA HELP NEEDED – Emmaus' school cook is in need of some help getting lunches ready for our students. Hours: approximately 9:00a.m. - 2:30 p.m., two or three days per week. Please contact Emmaus for more details and information: 260-459-7722, ext. 1014 or 260-348-9655. If you know someone who enjoys working in the kitchen and would like to work part time, please share this information with them. Thank you!

LISTEN TO LUTHERAN PROGRAMMING You can listen to Issues, Etc. live or on-demand at www.issuesetc.org or on the LPR mobile app or to KFUO at KFUO.org.

For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a "Royal Priesthood." God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests **PRAY** -- They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests **TEACH** -- They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests **OFFER SACRIFICES** -- They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

Morning Prayer

Luke 1:39-56

Revelation 8:1-13

Revelation 9:1-12

Revelation 9:13-10:11

Revelation 11:1-19

Revelation 12:1-17

Matthew 1:1-17

DAILY LECTIONARY

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Evening Prayer

Micah 5:2-5a

Isaiah 40:18-41:10

Isaiah 42:1-25

Isaiah 43:1-24

Isaiah 43:25-44:20

Isaiah 44:21-45:13, 20-25

Isaiah 49:1-18

THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

[Daily] **O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us.** Let us pray:

[S] For the joy of the Resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; for diligent preaching and hearing of God's Word of Law and Gospel; for our pastors; for the teachers and students of our Sunday School; for our Bible Class leaders and their students; for our catechumens; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[M] For workers; for the unemployed; for farmers; for seasonable weather; for businesses small and large; for our leaders, federal, state and local; for the economic welfare of the nations on earth; for peace in our world; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[W] For fathers, mothers, and families; for those adults who must rear their children alone; the teachers and students of Lutheran South Unity School and Concordia Lutheran High School; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the Word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our synod president, and Daniel, our district president; for those who have not heard the Gospel; for the fruitful use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[F] For the preaching of the Cross; for those persecuted for the sake of Gospel; the confession of the orthodox Lutheran faith in our community; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life's earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Daily]

The Our Father

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

First Sunday after Christmas

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

Colossians 3:12-17

Luke 2:22-40



What Doctor Luther Says:

About Grace for the Blessed Virgin Mary, Also

[T]he article of justification by Christ solves everything. If Christ merits it, we merit nothing. In Christ there are gifts, not merits. Likewise, since capital and substantial righteousness is nothing, how much less will accidental righteousness count in God's sight? Substantial righteousness is the righteousness of faith, but accidental righteousness is gifts, not merits. God crowns nothing but his own gifts, as Augustine said. He expounded the term "merit" very well against the deceit of the sophists, who said that the Blessed Virgin merited becoming the mother of Christ, the Son of God, because of her virginity; that is, she was suited in her maidenly body to give birth to him. Truly, an excellent merit! It's as if somebody were to say, "This tree merits the bearing of fruit because God ordained it to do so." Surely, one should look upon God's gifts and ordinance, not upon our works. Thus Augustine carefully reflected on the term "merit" and concluded from the words of Mary, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord" [Luke 1:38] and "He has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden" [Luke 1:48], that it depends on God's grace and not our merit. The merit of our works is nothing before God. The merit of our justification is grace, or Christ died in vain. Besides, we're all non-doers because there must be a diversity of gifts. This error comes from a confusion of the law and the gospel; when each of these teachings doesn't remain in its place and sphere, we turn heaven into hell and hell into heaven.

Luther's Works, 54:329.



Order Your Poinsettia Plants for Christmas 2021!

PLEASE PRINT



NAME _____

DEDICATION _____

___ 8 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$38 each \$ _____

___ 6 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$16 each \$ _____

___ 4 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$8.50 each \$ _____

___ General Donation \$ _____

___ Pick up plant after Christmas Day Service

___ Give plant to a shut-in

Return this form to the church office by **December 19th**
to have your dedication
printed in the bulletin.





Shut-in List for Christmas 2021



Mr. Everett Beck
10602 Knollton Run
Fort Wayne, IN 46818

Mrs. Lucille Brandt
6723 S. Anthony Blvd
Apt E 537
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Mrs. Jackie Schieferstein
2237 Engle Rd.
Room 301
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Mrs. Juanita Moore
6701 S. Anthony Blvd
Room C-313
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Mrs. Estella Ramirez
3917 Reed Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Mrs. James Lattimore
827 Colerick St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Mr. Stanley Goeglein
7785 A Jefferson Blvd W
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Mrs. Alice Padgett
4204 E. Tillman Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

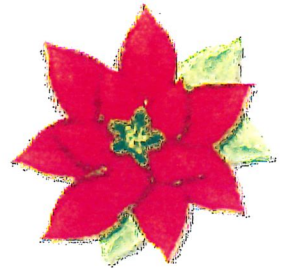
Mr. Erwin Brand
6701 S. Anthony Blvd.
Oak Terrance 370-1
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Mrs. Helen Russell
5129 Rockingham Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63121

Ms. Cheryl Silvers
1649 Spy Run Ave.
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Mr. Donald Zettelmier
1716 Frenchman's Xing
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Ms. Marsha Smith
Memory Unit
5700 Wilkie Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46804



LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!



Please pray for these students/staff:

Lucas Mann

Leilani Pearson

Vicente Herrera

Dominic Price

Khloe Hall

Camarion Henry

Arion Lee-Hawkins

Taria Webb-Arnold

Mrs. Ramsey

Mrs. Wakeland

Guest Speakers for Art and Music Class!

Mrs. Reynolds invited two guests to visit during her music and art classes the last few weeks. For art class, Mrs. Kim Rasmussen, a member of Bethlehem Lutheran, talked about her heritage during Native American Month in November. For music class, Kasey Hapner, a member of Peace Lutheran, shared her talents on the harp, an orchestra instrument.



Meet The Staff



Meet Lutheran South Unity's fifth grade teacher, **Mrs. Danielle Ramsey**. This is her fourth year to be teaching 5th grade at LSUS. Her student teaching was completed in Naperville, IL where she taught fourth and fifth grades. Mrs. Ramsey and her husband, Adam, have been married for three years. They graduated from Concordia University, Chicago, in May, 2018. Mr. Ramsey works in the field of social work. Mrs. Ramsey has a Bachelor's degree in Lutheran Elementary Education and Middle Grades Literacy. They also have a "mut" (dog) that they named Riley.

Traveling, hiking, and reading are some of the things she enjoys doing in her "spare" time. Mrs. Ramsey is a big help

to many of the staff who have trouble working through various programs on the computer. She and her husband are members of Peace Lutheran Church.

Some words of wisdom from Mrs. Ramsey are that you "never stop learning because life never stops teaching".

4th Grade Beginner Band members, Paingthu Hein, Caleb Rodriguez, and Conor Collentine have been hard at work learning how to play their instruments and reading music. They are instructed by Mr. Phillips.



Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. – Matthew 1:21



TORNADOES CARVE DEADLY PATH THROUGH MID-SOUTH COMMUNITIES

You Can Help Through the District's Disaster Relief Fund



As communities across Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Illinois continue to assess the devastating loss, the Mid-South District is coordinating donor funds to help with recovery efforts.

Greetings to our Mid-South District congregations and fellow LCMS Districts. As you know, devastating tornadoes struck numerous communities across Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Illinois in the evening and early morning hours of December 10 and 11. The death toll is staggering and continues to rise, while the devastation to property along the 250-mile storm path is unimaginable.

In the wake of such destruction, the need for aid is great. Already, countless calls asking "How can we help?" have flowed into the Mid-South District office. As the bleak aftermath of this disaster unfolds, **our first and most significant response is with prayer.** We pray for those who are still missing, those who are part of the difficult search effort, and those who are mourning victims of these devastating storms. To assist the thousands of individuals impacted by this terrible tragedy, both LCMS Disaster Response and Lutheran Church Charities are currently mobilizing critical resources.

HOW CAN YOU AND YOUR CONGREGATION HELP?

To assist with the relief effort, the Mid-South District has established a Disaster Relief Fund. Donations directed to this fund will be used for relief efforts in the tornado-ravaged communities. If you or any member of your congregation would like to contribute to this fund, you may make a gift online or by check payable to the Mid-South District Office / 1675 Wynne Road / Cordova TN 38016. Please note **"Disaster Relief Fund"** on any gifts sent by check. When donating online, please designate your gift as "restricted" for the Disaster Relief Fund.

Thank you for the many calls, texts and emails to express concern and offer aid. Praise God for such a compassionate and caring group of pastors and congregations in our District and Synod!

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola
President, Mid-South District LCMS

National March for Life Washington D.C.

**There are two ways to go this year.
Pick the one that works best for you!**

LIFE DEFENDERS - Jan. 19-22, \$180/student

We'll leave Wednesday night and return Saturday morning. 1 day sightseeing, 1 day for the march. 6 buses of prolife high school students!

Register at ichooselife.org/DC by January 5



FAMILY TRIP - Jan. 20-23, \$225-\$580/person

We'll leave Thursday morning and return Sunday evening. 1 day for the march, 1 day sightseeing. 3 nights in a hotel, metro pass, breakfasts included.

Register at ichooselife.org/nationalmarch by January 5*

**Deposit only due on 1/5.*

Payment due 1/19.



RIGHT TO LIFE
OF NORTHEAST INDIANA



January 21-23, 2022

(Saturday Only Option Available)

As 2022 begins, join with other women at Camp Lutherhaven for "What If?", a new year's retreat!

What if...we believed God is who he says he is? What if...we believed we are who God says we are? What if...we did what God asked us to do? This New Year's retreat promises to be an intentional, fun, and encouraging time with others and with Jesus.

The retreat's keynote presenter is Stacey Dumbacher who will lead us as we dig into the truth of who God is, the truth of who we are, and the life that God calls us to live.

Stacey is passionate about sharing God's love with those around her. As a wife and mother, her greatest joy has come when she sees her girls serve those around her. She also serves as a leader in her church's youth group. Stacey joined the Run Hard. Rest Well. team in 2019 after 15 years in Junior Achievement. She is excited to join us in January!

Visit www.lutherhaven.org to register or for more information.