

# Historic Zion Lutheran Church

## DIVINE SERVICE FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

7:00 pm ..... Friday, December 31, 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

#### [ Rise ] 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.*

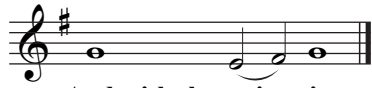
**Entrance Hymn ..... Across the Sky ..... Burgundy Hymn 899**

#### Kyrie



Salutation

*The Lord be with you.*



And with thy spir— it.

**Collect for The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus:** *Lord God, heavenly Father, because You sent us Your only-begotten Son for our salvation and gave Him the name of Jesus, grant that we may begin the New Year trusting in His saving name and live all our days in His service and praise to the glory of His holy name; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



**Collect for New Year's Day:** *Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



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

**Old Testament Reading**..... Numbers 6:22-27

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

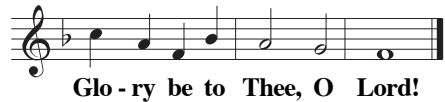
**Epistle of the Day** ..... Galatians 3:23-29

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

**Sequence Hymn** ..... Let Us All with Gladsome Voice ..... Burgundy Hymn 390

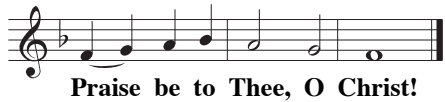
**Holy Gospel** ..... St. Luke 2:21

[ The Gospel is announced. ]



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!

[ The Gospel is proclaimed. ]



Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

**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 ..... Jesus! Name of Wondrous ..... Burgundy Hymn 900

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

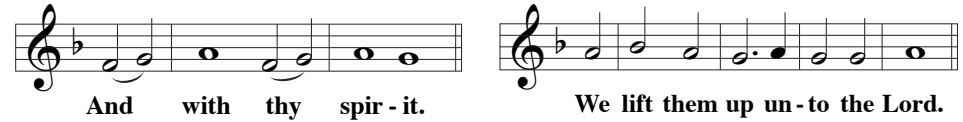


Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres- ence, and  
take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of  
Thy sal-va - tion; and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface

The Lord be with you. Lift up your hearts.



And with thy spir - it. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface for Christmas, Sanctus

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

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 highest.

[ Kneel ] Lord's Prayer

[ Pastor chants: ] Our Father who art in heaven; . . . . . but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo - ry for -  
ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

A - men.

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 Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is .... Burgundy Hymn 372

[ Rise ]

## 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—tiles 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.*



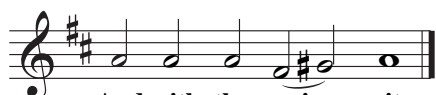
And His mercy endureth for — ev — er.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



A — men.

*The Lord be with you.*



And with thy spir — rit.

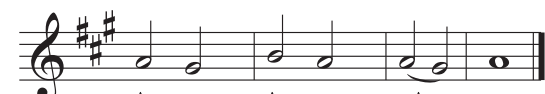
*Bless we the Lord.*



Thanks be to God.

## 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.*



A - men, A - men, A - men.

*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 ..... O God, Our Help ..... Burgundy Hymn 733**

**Postlude**



*Liturgical texts and musical settings: from Lutheran Service Book, copyright © 2006 by Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. License #000012381.*

## **Readings for New Year's Eve**

### **The Eve of the Circumcision and Naming of Jesus**

#### **The Old Testament Reading is Numbers 6:22-27**

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them, The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.  
"So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them."

#### **The Epistle is Galatians 3:23-29**

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

#### **The Gospel is Luke 2:21**

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

## Hymns for New Year's Eve

### **LSB899 Across the Sky the Shades of Night** James Hamilton & George Wismar

Text (st. 4): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. Across the sky the shades of night  
This New Year's Eve are fleeting.  
We deck Your altar, Lord, with light,  
In solemn worship meeting:  
And as the year's last hours go by,  
We raise to You our earnest cry,  
Once more Your love entreating.
2. Before the cross subdued we bow,  
To You our prayers addressing,  
Recounting all Your mercies now,  
And all our sins confessing;  
Beseeching You this coming year  
To keep us in Your faith and fear  
And crown us with Your blessing.
3. We gather up in this brief hour  
The mem'ry of Your mercies:  
Your wondrous goodness, love, and pow'r  
Our grateful song rehearses:  
For You have been our strength and stay  
In many a dark and dreary day  
Of sorrow and reverses.
4. We now remember, as we pray,  
Our dear ones in Your caring  
Who brightly shine in endless day,  
Past death and all despairing.  
At our life's end, Lord, as Your own,  
Bring us with them around Your throne,  
The joys of heaven sharing.
5. Then, gracious God, in years to come,  
We pray Your hand may guide us,  
And, onward through our journey home,  
Your mercy walk beside us  
Until at last our ransomed life  
Is safe from peril, toil, and strife  
When heav'n itself shall hide us.

## LSB367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

James Montgomery

1. Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth:  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

*Refrain:* Come and worship, come and worship;  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds in the field abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines His Infant Light. *Refrain*

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star. *Refrain*

4. Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear. *Refrain*

- △ 5. All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son.  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

## LSB390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

German, 17<sup>th</sup> cent.

1. Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,  
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.
2. To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sadness,  
That with Him in heav'ns fair homes We may reign in gladness.
3. We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder?  
Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.
4. Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us.  
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.

## **LSB900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love**

**William W. How**

1. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Name all other names above,  
Unto which must ev'ry knee Bow in deep humility.
2. Jesus! Name decreed of old, To the maiden mother told,  
Kneeling in her lowly cell, By the angel Gabriel.
3. Jesus! Name of priceless worth To the fallen sons of earth  
For the promise that it gave, "Jesus shall His people save."
4. Jesus! Name of mercy mild, Given to the holy Child  
When the cup of human woe First He tasted here below.
5. Jesus! Only name that's giv'n Under all the mighty heav'n  
Whereby those to sin enslaved Burst their fetters and are saved.
6. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

## **LSB372 O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is**

**Paul Gerhardt**

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. O Jesus Christ, Thy manger is  
My paradise at which my soul reclineth.  
For there, O Lord, Doth lie the Word  
Made flesh for us; herein Thy grace forth shineth.
2. He whom the sea And wind obey  
Doth come to serve the sinner in great meekness.  
Thou, God's own Son, with us art one,  
Dost join us and our children in our weakness.
3. Thy light and grace Our guilt efface,  
Thy heav'nly riches all our loss retrieving.  
Immanuel, Thy birth doth quell  
The power of hell and Satan's bold deceiving.
4. Thou Christian heart, Whoe'er thou art,  
Be of good cheer and let no sorrow move thee!  
For God's own Child, In mercy mild,  
Joins thee to Him; how greatly God must love thee!
5. Remember thou What glory now  
The Lord prepared thee for all earthly sadness.  
The angel host can never boast  
Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.

6. The world may hold Her wealth and gold;  
But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true treasure.  
To Him hold fast Until at last  
A crown be thine and honor in full measure.

### **LSB733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

**Isaac Watts**

1. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:
2. Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.
5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;  
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.
6. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while life shall last And our eternal home!



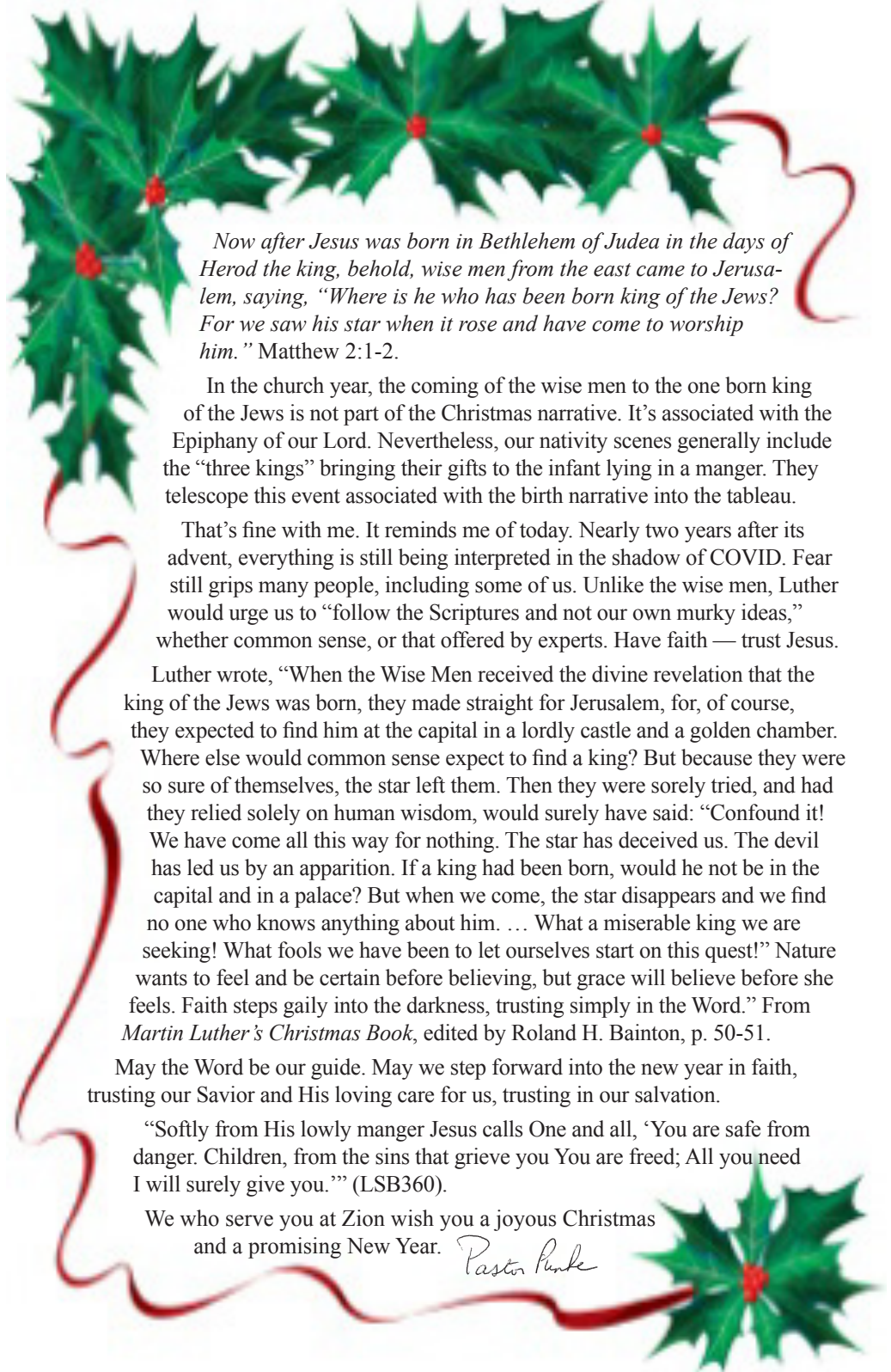
# What Doctor Luther Says:

## *About Sign and Promise in Circumcision and Baptism*

“The sign and the promise should be tied to each other, not torn from each other. Those err who abandon the sign and say, ‘God is the God of all nations and therefore I won’t allow myself to be baptized.’ For the promise always stands in such a way that the letter and the seal should be together. Neither avails without the other. One doesn’t have faith in a seal which stands by itself, nor in a letter by itself. . . . If you have the letter, let a seal be affixed to it. It would have availed nothing if a Jew had said, ‘I am Abraham’s son and therefore I don’t want to be circumcised.’

“Because the objection is now raised that the day of circumcision was fixed—namely, the eighth day—but the time of baptism was not fixed, I reply: I’m not concerned about the work but about the Word. The eighth day adds nothing. Nor does either the command or the sign add anything, for Abraham was righteous before the circumcision. Learn to hold the Word high. It’s true that circumcision was a command, a requirement, and was prescribed for the eighth day, but you should say, ‘This day or that day, this command or that command—these aren’t the important things. This is of central importance: that God is your God and the God of your seed. It’s on the strength of this promise that you should be circumcised.’ Even so, it doesn’t matter whether one is baptized when young or old, but it matters that God is the God of young and old and that he gave his Son for them. It’s on this that you should be baptized.”

*Luther’s Works, 54:56-7.*



*Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." Matthew 2:1-2.*

In the church year, the coming of the wise men to the one born king of the Jews is not part of the Christmas narrative. It's associated with the Epiphany of our Lord. Nevertheless, our nativity scenes generally include the "three kings" bringing their gifts to the infant lying in a manger. They telescope this event associated with the birth narrative into the tableau.

That's fine with me. It reminds me of today. Nearly two years after its advent, everything is still being interpreted in the shadow of COVID. Fear still grips many people, including some of us. Unlike the wise men, Luther would urge us to "follow the Scriptures and not our own murky ideas," whether common sense, or that offered by experts. Have faith — trust Jesus.

Luther wrote, "When the Wise Men received the divine revelation that the king of the Jews was born, they made straight for Jerusalem, for, of course, they expected to find him at the capital in a lordly castle and a golden chamber. Where else would common sense expect to find a king? But because they were so sure of themselves, the star left them. Then they were sorely tried, and had they relied solely on human wisdom, would surely have said: "Confound it! We have come all this way for nothing. The star has deceived us. The devil has led us by an apparition. If a king had been born, would he not be in the capital and in a palace? But when we come, the star disappears and we find no one who knows anything about him. . . . What a miserable king we are seeking! What fools we have been to let ourselves start on this quest!" Nature wants to feel and be certain before believing, but grace will believe before she feels. Faith steps gaily into the darkness, trusting simply in the Word." From *Martin Luther's Christmas Book*, edited by Roland H. Bainton, p. 50-51.

May the Word be our guide. May we step forward into the new year in faith, trusting our Savior and His loving care for us, trusting in our salvation.

"Softly from His lowly manger Jesus calls One and all, 'You are safe from danger. Children, from the sins that grieve you You are freed; All you need I will surely give you.'" (LSB360).

We who serve you at Zion wish you a joyous Christmas  
and a promising New Year.

*Pastor Pank*

