

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

9:00 am Sunday, December 11, 2022

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.

[*Antiphon*] **Rejoice in the | Lord al- ways; || again | I will say, re- | joice. || But I will hope**
con- | tin- ual- ly || and will praise | you yet more and | more.

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

And with thy spir— it.

A ————— men!

A ——— men!

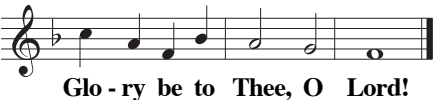
+ Page 2 +

Epistle of the Day James 5:7-11
[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

[Rise] **Alleluia Sequence**
[Deacon] *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.” Alleluia!*



Holy Gospel St. Matthew 11:2-15
[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 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Burgundy Hymn 345
[Rise for Stanza 5.]

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**





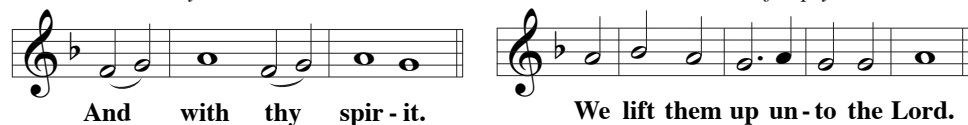
take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of
Thy sal-va - tion; and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

Preface

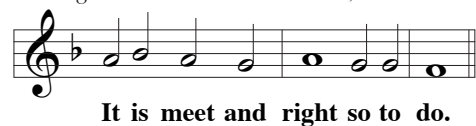
The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



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

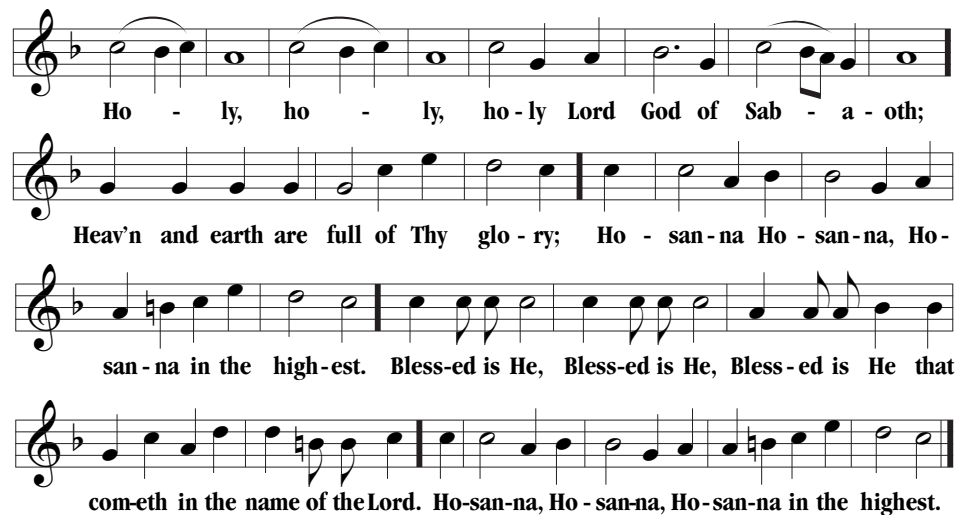
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

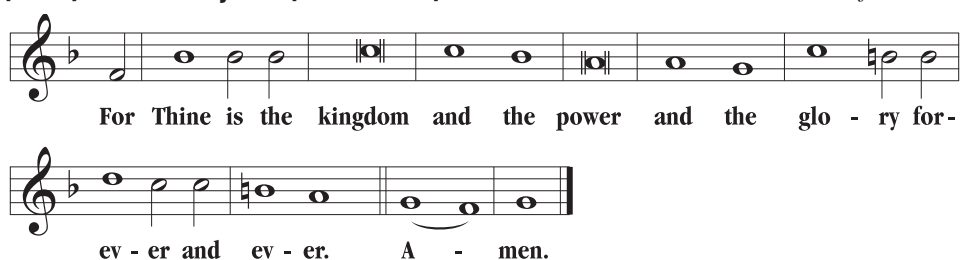
Proper Preface for Advent, Sanctus

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 ... 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.

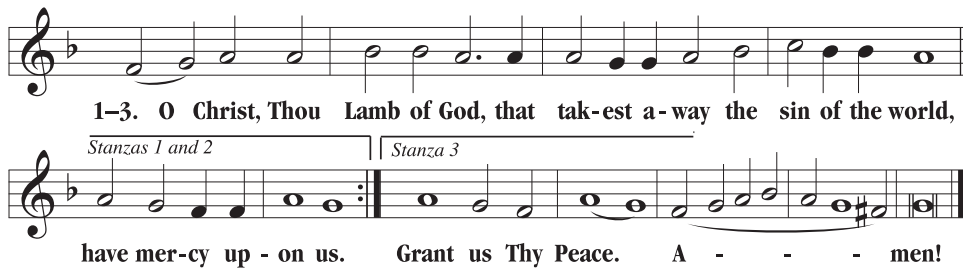
Words of Institution, Pax Domini

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 . When All the World Was Cursed .. Burgundy Hymn 346
Arise, O Christian People Burgundy Hymn 354

[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!

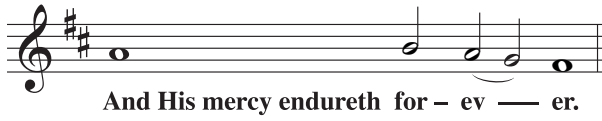
Post-Communion Canticle The Nunc Dimittis



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- 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 Hark the Glad Sound Burgundy Hymn 349

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 Candlelight 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 Third Sunday in Advent

The Old Testament Reading is 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.

The Epistle is 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.

The Gospel is Matthew 11:2-15

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.”

Hymns for the Third Sunday in Advent

LSB345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Latin, c. 5th-10th cent.

1. Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! “Christ is near,” we hear it say.
“Cast away the works of darkness, All you children of the day!”
2. Startled at the solemn warning, Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling, Shines upon the morning skies.
3. See, the Lamb, so long expected, Comes with pardon down from heav’n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, One and all, to be forgiv’n;
4. So, when next He comes in glory And the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with His mercy And with words of love draw near.
- △ 5. Honor, glory, might, dominion to the Father and the Son
With the ever-living Spirit While eternal ages run!

LSB346 When All the World Was Cursed

Johann Gottfried Olearius

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1. When all the world was cursed, By Moses’ condemnation,
Saint John the Baptist came, With words of consolation.
With true forerunner’s zeal, The greater One he named,
And Him, as yet unknown, As Savior he proclaimed.
2. Before he yet was born, He leaped in joyful meeting,
Confessing Him as Lord, Whose mother he was greeting.
By Jordan’s rolling stream, A new Elijah bold,
He testified of Him, Of whom the prophets told.
3. Behold the Lamb of God, That bears the world’s transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes, The devil’s dread oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God, Who takes away our sin,
Who for our peace and joy, Will full atonement win.
4. O grant, dear Lord of love, That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John, Our true repentance voicing.
That gladly we may walk, Upon our Savior’s way,
Until we live with Him, In His eternal day.

LSB354 Arise, O Christian People

Valentin Thilo

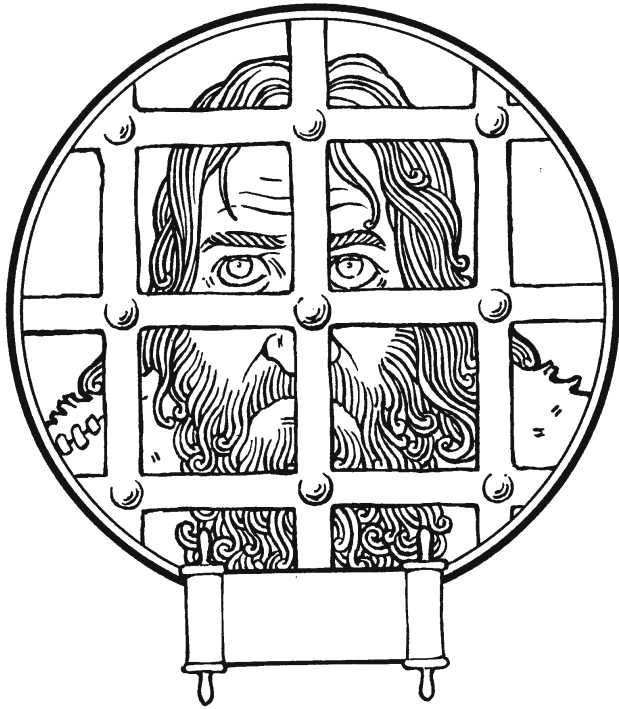
1. Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today;
Prepare to greet the Savior, Who takes you sins away.
To us by grace alone The truth and light were given;
The promised Lord from heaven To all the world is shown.
2. Prepare the way before Him; Prepare for Him the best.
Cast out what would offend Him, This great, this heav'nly guest.
Make straight, make plain the way: The lowly valleys raising,
The heights of pride abasing, His path, all even lay.
3. The humble heart and lowly God raises up on high;
Beneath His feet in terror The haughty soul shall lie.
The heart sincere and right, That heeds God's invitation
And makes true preparation—It is the Lord's delight.
4. Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; Turn not from me aside,
And help me to receive You This blessed Advent-tide.
From stall and manger low Come now to dwell within me;
I'll sing Your praises gladly And forth Your glory show.

LSB349 Hark the Glad Sound

Philip Doddridge

1. Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.
2. He comes the pris'ners to release, In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.
3. He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace To enrich the humble poor.
4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring With Thy beloved name.

The Third Sunday in Advent



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 | 260-744-1389

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

Zion Lutheran Church is the body of Christ at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana that:

- Receives Christ's gifts in Word and Sacraments; and
- Responds to God's love in Christ by
 - Reaching out to those who do not know His love; and
 - Revealing His love in acts of kindness and mercy.

The Pastoral Ministry At Zion

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)

Field Workers:

Peter Wagner, Patrick Jackson, Paul Mroczenski

The Teaching Staff At Lutheran South Unity

Principal:

Amber Bahr (744-0459)

Teachers: Yvonne Schwantz (8th), Abigail DeForest (6th), Anyssa Scaer (MS History), Allison Wims (K-8 Technology & MS Health), Marcus Rush (MS PE), Danielle Ramsey (5th), Meredith Tourney (4th), Abbey Zelt (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Maresh (1st), Abby Springer (K), Natalie Reynolds (Art & Music)

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music:

Michael Hollman, MM

Church Office Manager:

Melvia Culpher

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church, especially those bearing the cross of persecution
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our pastors and teachers, past and present, and our fieldworkers Patrick Jackson and Paul Mroczenski
- + For our nation; for our leaders, our military, including James Hall, especially at this perilous time in our world
- + 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 Everett Beck and Doris Yerger
- + For those who are nearing death, including Willie Manning
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Marilyn Shafter, John Starks, Dwight Bieberich, Debra Busche, Bill Weinrich, Paul Dolde, Willodean Bates, Gloria Gonzalez, Dick Hollman, Rev. Paul Spira, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Louise Petrillo, Ron Rastl, Marlow Hogan, Gregory 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
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, especially Ralph (Tubby) Beck
- + 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 Third Sunday in Advent. The Cross Bowl & Altar Vases are given in recognition of the past and present pastors & teachers of Zion by Jennifer Manth. The Baptismal Bud Vase is given in loving memory of Ralph (Tubby) Beck for his birthday by Connie and Steve Houser. 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 11, 2022 thru December 17, 2022

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| SUN. | 9:00 AM | Divine Service | Church |
| | 10:30 AM | Adult Bible Class | Bauer Hall |
| | 10:30 AM | Sunday School (little ones) | Assoc. Pastor's Office |
| | 10:30 AM | Junior Catechesis | Conference Room |
| | 4:00 PM | CLHS Christmas at the Embassy | Embassy Theatre |
| MON. | | | |
| TUES. | 9:30 AM | FW South Circuit | New Life Lutheran |
| | 7:00 PM | Star of Wonder LSUS Christmas program | Bethlehem Lutheran |
| WED. | 9:30 AM | Men of Zion | Conference Room |
| | 5:45 PM | Advent Supper | Bauer Hall |
| | 7:00 PM | Advent Evening Prayer | Church |
| THURS. | 10:30 AM | Book of Concord | Conference Room |
| FRI. | | | |
| SAT. | 11:00 AM | Private Confession | Church |
| | 11:00 AM | Packing Shut in Bags | Bauer Hall |

December 18, 2022

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| SUN. | 9:00 AM | Divine Service | Church |
| | 10:30 AM | Education hour | Various |

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Dr. Voelz is teaching the Gospel according to St. Mark in Bauer Hall. Sunday School children (little ones) meet in the Associate Pastor's office. Junior Catechesis meets in the Conference Room.

THANKS to Rev. Michael Bahr for preaching today.

ADVENT: Don't forget Advent suppers on Wednesdays at 5:45 PM with Evening Prayer at 7:00 PM. This Wednesday, Sem. Brennan DeForest will be preaching with Evening Prayer being led by Sem. Patrick Jackson.

CHRISTMAS DAY falls on a Sunday this year. We'll have our regular Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols Service on the Saturday before, Dec. 24. Christmas Day will be a Sunday Divine Service, but it will be the Festival Divine Service. Don't miss out! New Year's Day is also a Sunday. We'll have no New Year's Eve Service this year, but will celebrate the New Year on Sunday with Divine Service followed by our 8th Day of Christmas party. Plan to stay and bring some Christmas goodies and sweet bread to share.

CTSFW FOOD COOP: We'll continue our ingathering through December 15th. We have already collected 56 containers of various sizes in the month of November. Let's keep it up. Grab a paper sack from the small table in the Great Hall, fill it with suggested items or other foodstuffs, and return it to church. We'll get the sacks to the seminary. Also, there is a small box on the table, if you prefer to give gift cards for the holiday. May the Lord bless the givers and receivers of these gifts.

THIS IS THE WEEK to bring in cookies and fruit for our shut-ins. We will gather the goodies during the week, pack them up on Saturday, Dec. 17th, and have them ready for members to grab some on Sunday, Dec. 18th and deliver them. If you can help pack the bags, please join Melvia on Saturday, Dec. 17th at 11 AM in Bauer Hall. Thank you!

CUP OF KINDNESS is a ministry of Lutheran Social Services that provides "a connection to the hope that lies in Christ." Lutherans should love their neighbors always, but during this holy season of Advent, you can show a special effort of love by contributing to the Cup of Kindness. You'll find the "Cup" on the table in the narthex. Dave will get the donations to LSSI.

LUTHERAN WITNESS: *Good News!* Member families have again been gifted a 2023 subscription to *The Lutheran Witness* by an anonymous donor. We say, "thank you!"

HELP STILL NEEDED: DaVanna is looking for a couple ladies to help with the Altar Guild. Please contact her if you are able and willing to help out.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Jude 24-25—"Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen." Last week's verse was Exodus 31:13.

PUT JANUARY 8 on your calendar. At 2 PM on that Sunday afternoon, Zion will host the Prayer Room on the Electric Works campus for an hour. The Prayer Room, which opens on Jan. 6th, is a 24/7 prayer room. You can check it out that day. We are participating in the first 100 hours of the Prayer Room by hosting for an hour. Although we only need two to host the room, it would be nice to have a contingent of Zion members there for this purpose.

YOU'RE INVITED to The Darkest Night Service held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Wed., Dec. 21 at 7 pm. This service will be using Taize music and prayer to enhance worship and guide us in a sacred and safe space to recognize grief and loss. This service is brought to you by the combined efforts of the mental health and wellness teams of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Peace Lutheran Church.

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

DAILY LECTIONARY

Evening Prayer

Matthew 3:1-12

The Third Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

Jude 1-25

Monday

Isaiah 29:1-14

Revelation 1:1-20

Tuesday

Isaiah 29:15-30:14

Revelation 2:1-29

Wednesday

Isaiah 30:15-26

Revelation 3:1-22

Thursday

Isaiah 30:27-31:9

Revelation 4:1-11

Friday

Isaiah 32:1-20

Revelation 5:1-14

Saturday

Isaiah 33:1-24

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 Richard, 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

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 7:10-17

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25



What Doctor Luther Says:

About the Hard Work of Conversion

[I]t was necessary for John to come with his external Word or testimony, to point at Christ with his finger, and to say: “That is He.” There was no other means or method.

As we have already said, Christ Himself let His light shine with word and deed, performed miracles before their very eyes, helped all the sick that were brought to Him, taught and preached with such power that the people were astonished. Still all this bore but little fruit. The schismatic spirits, on the other hand, lay claim to better ways and means of conversion; however, they ... are so full of the fanatical spirit that they do not realize how much is required to overcome and vanquish one’s own mistaken ideas, opinions, and conceit. It takes toil and trouble to engender faith in people by the God-ordained means of the preaching ministry, absolution, and the Sacrament. Even John could not persuade all his hearers to give credence to his testimony, to accept Christ and acknowledge that He is the Light and the Life of mankind and the Savior of the world. At first not even John’s disciples could be brought to believe. Therefore he had to send two of them to the Lord Christ with the question: “Are You He who is to come?” (Matt. 11:3) He wanted them to hear Christ with their own ears, to behold with their own eyes the miracles He was performing so abundantly, and then to report their experiences to the others. Now if even John, the man sent by God, who did not have his equal among all those born of woman (Matt. 11:11), failed to persuade all the Jews to believe his testimony, what ground do these blasphemous fanatics have to stand on with their claim that the Spirit, yes, the Spirit, must accomplish it [apart from the word]?...

In all likelihood, many took offense [at John’s death and Christ’s] ... Therefore Christ said very significantly in Matt. 11:6: “Blessed is he who takes no offense at Me.”

Luther’s Works, 22:48-9.



Order Your Poinsettia Plants for Christmas 2022!

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

DEDICATION _____

___ 8 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$40 each

___ 6 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$17 each

___ 4 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$9.00 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 18th**
to have your dedication
printed in the bulletin.





Zion's Shut in Members



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

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

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

Debbie Busche
Five Star Residences of FW
2601 Covington Commons Dr.
Room 7
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

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

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

Mrs. Hilda Volmerding
Ceder Ridge of FW
3320 E. State Blvd. #205
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Mrs. Shirley Bohner
7317 Sageport Place
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Mrs. Marylou Graham
5273 Eastwick Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

Mrs. Sandi Cunningham
1029 Lake Ave
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Mrs. Phyllis Tanner
2621 Clara Ave
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Mr. Willie Manning
1020 Pointe Center Cove
Fort Wayne, IN 46819

Mrs. Gloria Gonzales
2950 Lillie Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Mrs. Marilyn Shafter
617 Darlington Ct.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

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



LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!



Please pray for these students/staff:

Alexia Reynoso
Le'Ana Davis
Noah Ferguson
Foreil Young
Jayden Simpson

Max Lassen
John Benson
Logan Pargeon
Kata Bahr
Miss Springer

Chapel Buddies

We had a Thanksgiving themed scavenger hunt throughout the school Tuesday before break. Chapel buddies worked together to find the answers to their worksheets. We also had these staff and special guest readers read them a story: Principal Bahr, Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. Rose Murphy from Peace, and Mrs. Reynold's son, Mr. Zach!



Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. — Isaiah 7:14

LUTHERAN SOUTH UNITY SCHOOL

CARAMEL IS BACK!

Large Jar(16 oz.) - \$15

Caramel will be sold at:

- LSUS
- Bethlehem
- Mt. Calvary
- Peace
- Zion

*Limited quantities,
so act now!*

-or you can contact the
office at 744-0459

Profits from caramel sauce will go to the Parent
Club Fund!



LUTHERAN SOUTH UNITY SCHOOL
KDG-8TH GRADE

Christmas Service

WHEN: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
TIME: 7PM
WHERE: BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
3705 S. ANTHONY BLVD.

STAR of Wonder



Concordia Lutheran High School Music Department Presents

Christmas at the Embassy

Come and See!

Christ the Lord, the Newborn King!



Concordia Lutheran
High School

December 11- 4:00pm
Historic Embassy Theatre

\$18- Adults/ \$12 Seniors/Students
Tickets at the Embassy Box Office or
Ticketmaster beginning November 11

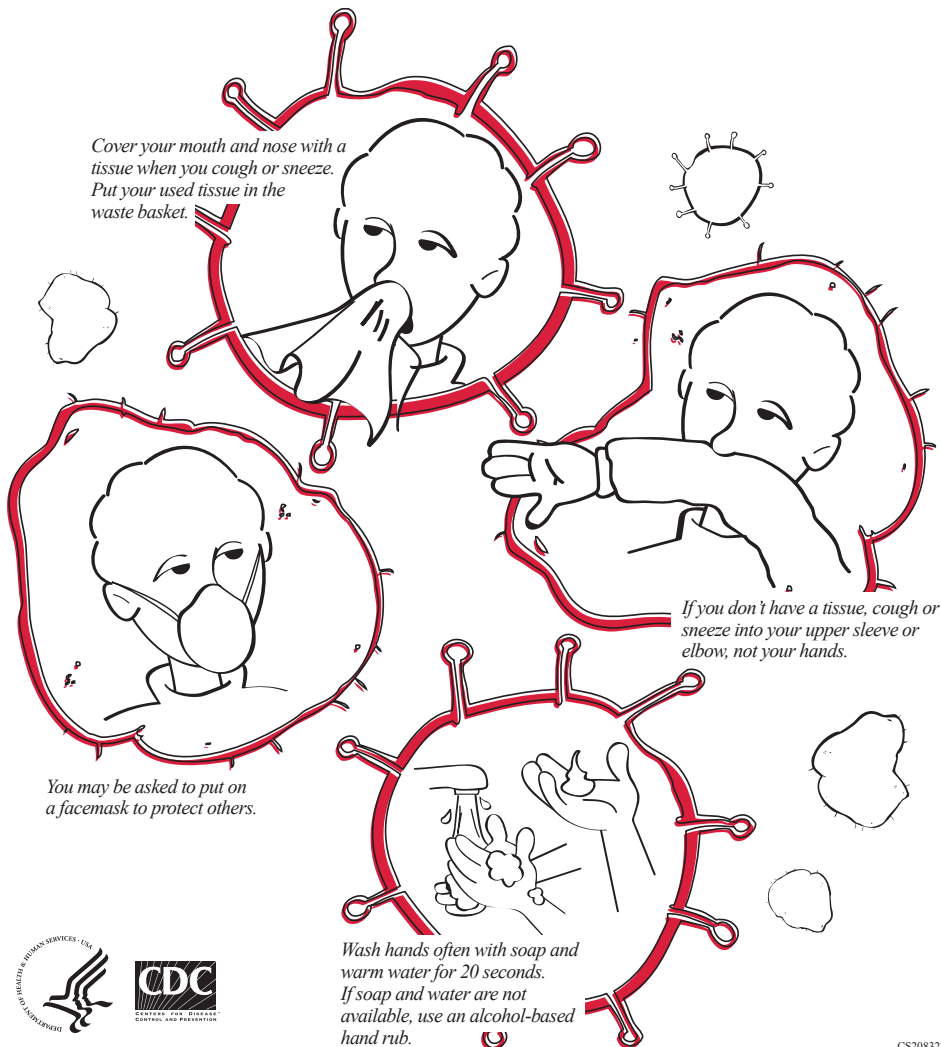
Preventing the Spread of Respiratory Viruses

News reports say that Flu, COVID, and RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) are all on the rise this year (the flu season has begun early and is spreading fast). We know what to do to help slow down the spread: 1) if sick, stay home and get treatment as necessary; 2) cover your cough — see below; 3) wash your hands often and well (20 sec with soap and water) or use hand sanitizer, especially after shaking hands ... no fist bumps yet; 4) eat well and sleep well; 5) get your vaccinations for flu and COVID.

Cover Cough

— Stop the spread of germs that can make you and others sick! —

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Put your used tissue in the waste basket.



If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.

You may be asked to put on a facemask to protect others.

Wash hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.



December
2022



lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

On November 15, pro-life watchdog group Operation Rescue released the results of its 2022 Abortion Facility Survey. This survey tracks a wide variety of abortion-related data, including the total number of abortion facilities nationwide, facility numbers by type (surgical/chemical/virtual), average cost of first-trimester abortions, and average wait times between the day an abortion appointment is made and the day the abortion process is begun. In sum, Operation Rescue found that there are currently 683 abortion facilities/businesses operating in 36 states plus the District of Columbia, the lowest number in nearly five decades. Remarkably, this represents a 68% decrease from 1991, when there were 2,176 US abortion facilities. Eighty-eight abortion facilities have closed or otherwise ceased operations so far in 2022, while 53 new facilities have opened. This represents a net nationwide decrease of 36 abortion facilities. There are 20 fewer facilities committing abortions at 20 weeks or later compared to last year. Eighty percent of the facilities that ceased operations were surgical facilities, while 64% of all new abortion facilities are abortion pill sites. There are currently 94 locations using telemedicine to distribute the abortion pill by mail; 14 of these are virtual abortion facilities operating strictly online. These virtual facilities now comprise 15% of the abortion pill market share. Planned Parenthood, in particular, has closed 16 facilities in 2022 thus far. (*Live Action News*, 11/17/22; *CLR LifeWire*, 11/22/22)

Speaking up For Life

“When we have eyes of faith, eyes that recognize these delights are gifts from God, then we realize that what we’re missing, what we should be longing for, what we cannot live without, isn’t Amazon or Starbucks or McDonalds. It’s Him. And when we have Him, every other gift makes sense. Every other gift falls into its proper place.” *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life for Lutherans For Life*

“In carols of Christmas, you’ll sometimes hear more than gladness that the Child is born on Christmas. You’ll hear of deliverance: ‘Born that man no more may die. Born to raise the sons of earth ...’ There is much to ponder before, during, and after Christmas. Let the meaning of Christmas fill our hearts with anticipation, wonder, and thanksgiving for many days! For death’s days are numbered because of a birth—the birth of the Key of David.” *James M. Kushiner, Fellowship of St. James*

LFL at the March
January 19-21, 2023
Washington, D.C.
Conference and March
Open to All Adults



lutheransforlife.org/event/lfl-at-the-march-in-washington-d-c

Since 1973: 63,459,781
abortions in America

Source: www.lifenews.com/2022/01/07/63459781-babies-have-been-killed-in-abortions-since-roe-v-wade-in-1973

in Washington, D.C.

January 19-21, 2023

Y4Life

Conference and March

Open to all high school and college students!

Thursday

19

January

Blessed with Hope @ 6 PM ET

- Registration and Exhibits
- Opening Devotions: Rev. Bryan Wolfmuehler
- Introductions and Icebreakers
- Y4Life Conference Session 1: Blessed with Hope Rev. Bryan Wolfmuehler
- Music, Sign-making, Exhibits, and Social Time

Friday

20

January

Blessed from the Beginning

@ 9 AM ET

- Y4Life Conference Session 2: Pre-natal Development with Dr. Donna Harrison
- Pre-March Devotion: Rev. Harrison Goodman
- March for Life: Rally, March, and Testimonials
- Dinner on own
- Exhibits, Social Time
- Devotion and Post-March Discussion
- Y4Life Conference Session 3: Panel Discussion on CRT and Cultural Marxism

Saturday

21

January

Blessed for Serving @ 9 AM ET

- Y4Life Conference Session 3: Standing Firm in the Face of Persecution with Chaplain Craig Muehler
- Y4Life Conference Session 4: Shining Light in the Darkness - Human Trafficking Survivor with Keeya Vawar
- Closing Devotion: Rev. Michael Salemink

Ends @ Noon ET

Location:

Hilton Crystal City at Reagan National Airport
2399 Richmond Hwy, Arlington, VA 22202

Cost:

Conference is FREE for registered youth. Rooms cost \$120 per night with group rate, up to 4 people per room. Breakfast included. Limited availability.

Registration: Register with QR code or at y4life.org

Conference registration closes

Dec. 15, 2022

For more information, visit: ***Y4life.org***

Or email Director of Y4Life, Michelle Bauman, at:
michelle@y4life.org



word-of-hope.org

Y4Life.org