

# Historic Zion Lutheran Church

## DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

9:00 am ..... Sunday, December 18, 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*

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

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### 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 of the Day



[ Antiphon ] *Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down, || that the mountains might quake | at your pres-\_\_ | ence; || to make your name known to your | ad-ver- •saries•, || and that the nations might tremble | at your pres-\_\_ | ence.*

Verse 1: **I wait for the LORD, | my soul waits, || and | in his word I | hope; || my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen | for the •morning•, || more than | watch- men for the | •morning•.**

Verse 2: *O Israel, hope | in the LORD! || For with the LORD | there is stead- fast | love, || and with him is plenti- | ful re- •demption•. || And he will redeem Israel from all | his in- iq- ui- | ties.*

Gloria: **Glory 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!**

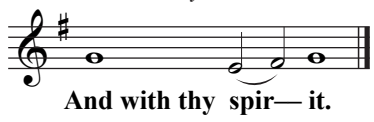
[ Antiphon ] **Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down, || that the mountains might quake | at your pres-\_\_ | ence; || to make your name known to your | ad- ver- •saries•, || and that the nations might tremble | at your pres-\_\_ | ence.**

Kyrie



Salutation

*The Lord be with you.*



**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.*



**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.*



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

**Old Testament Reading..... Isaiah 7:10-17**

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

## Epistle of the Day ..... Romans 1:1-7

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

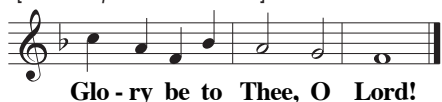
### [ Rise ] Alleluia Sequence

[ Deacon ] *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel", which means, God with us. Alleluia!*

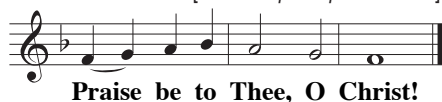


## Holy Gospel ..... St. Matthew 1:18-25

[ 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 Emmanuel ..... 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

## The Rite of Confirmation

### [ 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





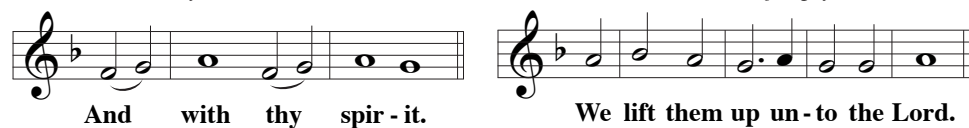
take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of  
Thy sal-va - tion; and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

**Preface**

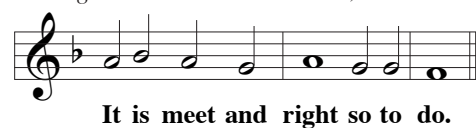
*The Lord be with you.*

*Lift up your hearts.*



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

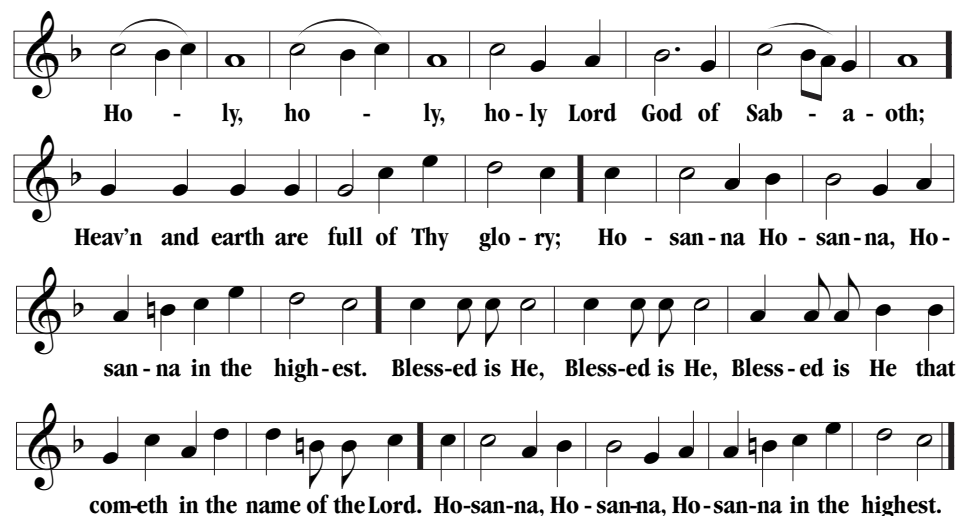
*Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.*



It is meet and right so to do.

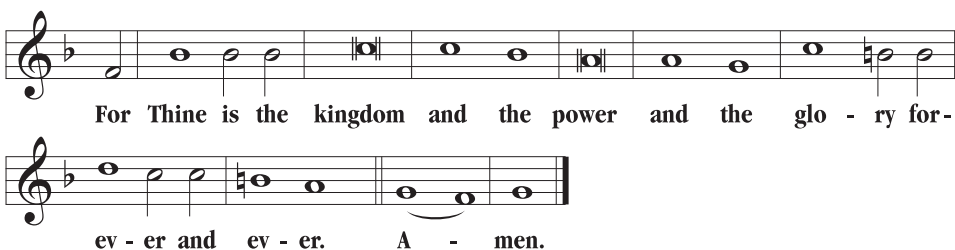
**Proper Preface for Advent, Sanctus**

*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 ..... The Night Will Soon ..... Burgundy Hymn 337  
Once He Came in Blessing ..... Burgundy Hymn 333

[ 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.

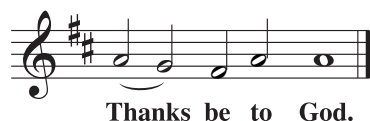
**Prayer of Thanksgiving** ...now and forever.

A ——— men.

*The Lord be with you.*



*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 ..... Come Thou Long-expected ..... Burgundy Hymn 338**

## 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 Isaiah 7:10-17**

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria!”

### **The Epistle is Romans 1:1-7**

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **The Gospel is Matthew 1:18-25**

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

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”  
(which means, God with us).

When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.



## Hymns for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

### LSB357 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Latin, c. 12<sup>th</sup> 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*
- M 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*
- W 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*
- M 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*
- W 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.*

## **LSB337 The Night Will Soon Be Ending**

**Jochen Klepper**

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1. The night will soon be ending; The dawn cannot be far.  
Let songs of praise ascending Now greet the Morning Star!  
All you whom darkness frightens With guilt or grief or pain,  
God's radiant Star now brightens And bids you sing again.
2. The One whom angels tended Comes near, a child, to serve;  
Thus God, the judge offended, Bears all our sins deserve.  
The guilty need not cower, For God has reconciled  
Through His redemptive power All those who trust this child.
3. The earth in sure rotation Will soon bring morning bright,  
So run where God's salvation Glows in a stable's light.  
As old as sins' perversion Is mercy's vast design:  
God brings a new creation — This child its seal and sign.
4. Yet nights will bring their sadness And rob our hearts of peace,  
And sin in all its madness Around us may increase.  
But now one Star is beaming Whose rays have pierced the night:  
God comes for our redeeming From sin's oppressive might.
5. God dwells with us in darkness And makes the night as day;  
Yet we resist the brightness And turn from God away.  
But grace does not forsake us, However far we run.  
God claims us still as children Through Mary's infant Son.

## **LSB333 Once He Came in Blessing**

**Johann Horn**

Text: (sts. 2-3) © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012381.

1. Once He came in blessing, All our sins redressing;  
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;  
Bore the cross to save us; Hope and freedom gave us.
2. Now He gently leads us; With Himself He feeds us  
Precious food from heaven, Pledge of peace here given,  
Manna that will nourish Souls that they may flourish.
3. Soon will come that hour\_\_ When with mighty power  
Christ will come in splendor And will judgment render,  
With the faithful sharing Joy beyond comparing.
4. Come, then, O Lord Jesus, From our sins release us.  
Keep our hearts believing, That we, grace receiving,  
Ever may confess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

## **LSB338 Come, Thou Long- Expected Jesus**

**Charles Wesley**

1. Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.
2. Born Thy people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king!  
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

# The Fourth Sunday in Advent



## Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

[pastor@zionfw.org](mailto:pastor@zionfw.org), [church@zionfw.org](mailto:church@zionfw.org) | website: [www.zionfw.org](http://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 (8<sup>th</sup>), Abigail DeForest (6<sup>th</sup>), Anyssa Scaer (MS History), Allison Wims (K-8 Technology & MS Health), Marcus Rush (MS PE), Danielle Ramsey (5<sup>th</sup>), Meredith Tourney (4<sup>th</sup>), Abbey Zelt (3<sup>rd</sup>), John Fink (2<sup>nd</sup>), Hannah Maresh (1<sup>st</sup>), 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 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, including Dick Hollman and the family of Ginny Hollman, the family of Radafe Martin, and the family of Rev. Robert Schaibley
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Ginny Hollman, Radafe Martin, Rev. Robert Schaibley, and Vanessa Smith
- + 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 by DaVanna & David Seifert and family. 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 18, 2022 thru December 24, 2022**

<b>SUN.</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Divine Service</b>	<b>Church</b>
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Class	Bauer Hall
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (little ones)	Assoc. Pastor's Office
<b>MON.</b>			
<b>TUES.</b>			
<b>WED.</b>		<i>No Men of Zion this day</i>	
	<b>5:45 PM</b>	<b>Advent Supper</b>	<b>Bauer Hall</b>
	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Advent Evening Prayer</b>	<b>Church</b>
<b>THURS.</b>			
<b>FRI.</b>			
<b>SAT.</b>	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church
	6:30 PM	Pre Service Music	Church
	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Church

### **December 25, 2022 Christmas Day**

<b>SUN.</b>	<b>8:45 AM</b>	<b>Pre-Service Music</b>	<b>Church</b>
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Divine Service</b>	<b>Church</b>

## **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.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Amelia Brooks who today is being confirmed into the Evangelical Lutheran faith. We welcome Amelia to the Lord's table to eat and drink with us.

**ADVENT:** The last of the Advent suppers is this Wednesdays at 5:45 PM with Evening Prayer at 7:00 PM. This week Pastor himself will be preaching and leading Evening Prayer.

**THE CHRISTMAS SEASON:** Our regular Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols Service is this Saturday, Dec. 24, preservice music at 6:30 PM, service at 7:00 PM. Christmas Day falls on Sunday, and it will be a Festival Divine Service, preservice music at 8:45 AM, service at 9:00 AM! There will be no New Year's Eve Service this year, but New Year's Day is a Sunday, and we'll have a Divine Service on January 1, 2023. That service will be followed by our 8<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas party. Plan to stay and bring some Christmas goodies and sweet bread to share.

**PASTOR ROBERT SCHABLEY** was Senior Pastor at Zion from 1986 to 1995. In recent years, he has had increasing health problems. He succumbed to them on Tuesday, December 14, being called home to Christ. The family requests our prayers. The funeral will be on Wednesday, December 28, at Faith Lutheran Church and School in Plano, Texas. As with all the saints who die in the Lord, we rejoice that Pastor Schaibley has realized his victory, but we grieve with the family.

**THANKS** to everyone who helped with the shut-in bags on Saturday. If you would like to drop them off to the person on the tag, please do. Also, thanks to everyone who brought in food for the CTSFW Food Coop. It's always a blessing to bless others.

**REMEMBER JANUARY 8, 2 PM** for Prayer Room hosting, 1626 Broadway St, Suite 135.

**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!"

**MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE:** Genesis 3:15—"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." Last week's verse was Jude 24-25.

**RIGHT TO LIFE OF NORTHEAST INDIANA** is signing people up to go to Washington D.C. for the National March for Life. Visit [www.ichooselife.org/lddc](http://www.ichooselife.org/lddc) to register for the Life Defenders Bus trip; or visit [www.ichooselife.org/nationalmarch](http://www.ichooselife.org/nationalmarch) to register for the Family trip. You can also call RLNI at 260-471-1849.

**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.

**CLHS** is seeking an English teacher, a Physical Education teacher, and an LROTC Instructor. To view the position description and responsibilities and to apply, please visit [www.clhscadets.com/employment](http://www.clhscadets.com/employment). Only applications with all materials, including the completed application, will be considered. And the ROTC Army Instructor Application and Certification link is: [www.usarmyjrotc.com/application-certification/](http://www.usarmyjrotc.com/application-certification/).

**SACRED MUSIC FROM LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO:** If you're tired of listening to the endless loop of Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You," you can listen to sacred music for the season 24/7 by going to [issuesetc.org/lutheran-public-radio-music/](http://issuesetc.org/lutheran-public-radio-music/) and clicking on the "Click here to listen to our Sacred Music stream" link.

## 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 1:18-25

**The Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Isaiah 7:10-17

Revelation 7:1-17

Monday

Isaiah 40:1-17

Revelation 8:1-13

Tuesday

Isaiah 40:18-41:10

Revelation 9:1-12

Wednesday

Isaiah 42:1-25

Revelation 9:13-10:11

Thursday

Isaiah 43:1-24

Revelation 11:1-19

Friday

Isaiah 43:25-44:20

Revelation 12:1-17

Saturday

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

### 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

**Christmas Day**

Isaiah 52:7-10

Hebrews 1:1-12

John 1:1-18



# What Doctor Luther Says:

## About the Conception of Jesus in the Blessed Virgin

[T]he text of Isaiah [7:14] is certainly most accurately translated, “Behold, a maiden is with child.” No Jew who understands both German and Hebrew can deny that this is what is said in the Hebrew, for we Germans do not say “*concepit*, the woman has conceived”; the preachers have so rendered the Latin into German. Rather, the German would say in his mother tongue, “The woman is with child,” or, “is heavy with child,” or, “is pregnant.”

But here in the Hebrew it does not say, “Behold, a maiden shall be with child,” as though she were not as yet. It says rather, “Behold, a maiden is with child,” as though she has the fruit already in her womb and nevertheless is still a maiden, in order that you will have to notice how the prophet himself is amazed that there stands before him a maiden who is with child even before she knows a man carnally. She was of course going to have a husband, she was physically fit and mature enough for it; but even before she gets to that she is already a mother. This is indeed a rare and marvelous thing.

This is the way St. Matthew [1:18] construes this passage when he says, “When Mary the mother of Jesus had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit,” etc. What does this mean other than that she was a young maiden who had not yet known a man although she was capable of it, but before she knew the man she was with child, and that this was an amazing thing since no maiden becomes pregnant prior to intercourse with a man? Thus, the evangelist regarded her in the same light as did the prophet, and set her forth as the sign and wonder.

*Luther's Works*, 45:210-11.





# 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.



# LSUS NOTES

## Praying for You!



### Please pray for these students/staff:

Carreonna Roland  
Gavin Bercot  
Ivan Martinez  
Owynn Cassell  
Jordyn Gaines  
Emilia Antoine  
Camarion Henry

Kyaw Ko  
Martin Herrera  
Mrs. Tourney  
Miss Zelt  
Miss Sally  
Pastor Spira

## CLHS Students take 3rd at TechFest!

Congratulations to CLHS students who competed at TechFest! They took third place overall! Special shout-out to our very own **Kata Bahr** who was on the very young math team that made it to the final round of competition and placed 4th. Yay, Kata!



## Kindergarten ROUNDUP

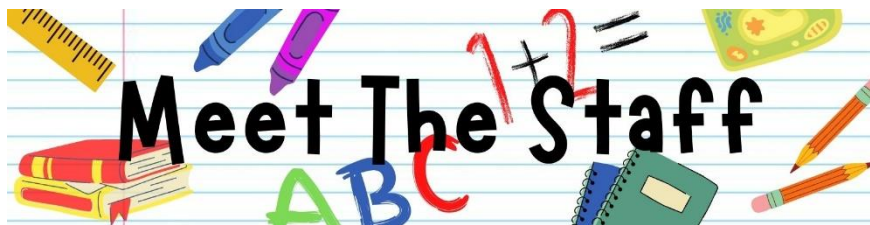
Monday, January 9, 2022 @ 6 PM

Were you unable to come to the first Kindergarten Roundup for your child, grandchild or friend? We are offering another opportunity to come to LSUS for a meeting. This is scheduled for Monday, January 9, at 6:00 pm.

At the meeting you will see what our kindergarten looks like and what our school expectations are of both you and your child. You will get to hear what a day in kindergarten looks like.

Kindergarten testing times will also be set up for future dates. Finally, we will give each family a registration packet for their child.

We will be looking forward to seeing you. If you would like a separate tour of LSUS, please call the school to set up an appointment. (260-744-0459 ext. 104 – Barb Johnson).



Lutheran South Unity School has been blessed to have Mrs. Anyssa Scaer decide to take over the 7th grade homeroom, 7th grade religion, and 6th, 7th, and 8th grade social studies. She began teaching at LSUS at the beginning of 2nd quarter.

Mrs. Scaer has a Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education with an emphasis in social studies. Currently she is working on a master's degree in psychology. She taught at Ascension Lutheran School for three years in various positions in grades fifth through eighth grades. Primarily she worked in the areas of Social Studies and English/Language Arts.

She and her husband are members of Ascension Lutheran Church.

John Scaer, her husband, and she have a baby daughter named Clara. She enjoys hiking and reading a good book. A good cup of coffee is also one of her favorites!

Mrs. Scaer loves Lutheran Education. It gives the teachers the privilege to share the good news of Christ crucified and risen for sinners with our students.

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!



### Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" — Luke 2:3-14

Summary of meeting of the Council of Elders, Nov. 3, 2022  
(The following summary is being provided in accordance with the congregation's bylaws, §VIII)

Attendance:

Elders present: R. Lammert (chairman), T. Muehl (secretary), F. Jackson, W. Krause, A. Litke, B. Scott, K. Vlot

Elders absent: none

Pastor present: Pr. Punke

Visitor present: Paul Mroczenski

Pastor Punke led the elders in a devotion by reading from Luther's Large Catechism on Baptism.

Pastor Punke presented his monthly report to the elders, providing information about members, about his activities, and about associations that have a relation to the church (LSUS and CLHS).

The elders reviewed the status of assignment of elders and appointment of congregational members to its committees. As far as possible, the elders will finish the final setup of these committees at the December meeting.

The elders conducted their monthly review of their activities with Holy Communion to determine if any changes were needed.

The elders continued their study of the congregation's constitution and bylaws. The goal is to determine what the constitution and bylaws require of the Council of Elders that the elders are not currently doing, as well as to make suggestions to a constitutional review committee for possible changes and updates. The elders specifically studied the constitution, §IV.B.1, §IV.B.3, and §IX.C; and bylaws, §VII.A–C and §XI.

The elders looked at the upcoming season of Advent.

The elders reviewed a draft of the policy for the monthly report to the congregation.

The meeting concluded with Responsive Prayer I.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tyler Muehl, secretary

Summary of meeting of the Council of Elders, Dec. 8, 2022  
(The following summary is being provided in accordance with the congregation's bylaws, §VIII)

Attendance:

Elders present: R. Lammert (chairman), F. Jackson (secretary pro tem), W. Krause, A. Litke, K. Vlot

Elders absent: T. Muehl, B. Scott

Pastor present: Pr. Punke

Pastor Punke led the elders in a devotion by reading from Luther's Large Catechism on Baptism.

Pastor Punke presented his monthly report to the elders, providing information about members, about his activities, and about associations that have a relation to the church (LSUS and CLHS).

The elders reviewed the current selection of congregational members chosen by the elders to assist them on the board's committees in developing policy and practices in areas of responsibility (Pastoral Support and Assistance, Membership Supervision, Stewardship Policy, Evangelism and Assimilation of New Members, Worship Practices and Assistance, and Communication Policy and Practices). These congregational members will be installed during the Divine Service on January 8.

The Elders Council continued to review and discuss the constitution and bylaws, studying specifically the bylaws, §IV.D, §IV.K.1 and 4, §XIII, and §XVI.D.

The elders reviewed the draft of the first monthly report to the congregation; heard of preparations for Zion's participation in an hour of prayer at Fort Wayne's PrayerWorks, Sunday, Jan. 8, at 2:00 pm; heard an update on the Ministry Clarity project; reviewed the initial draft of the Pastoral Support and Assistance committee; and acknowledged their responsibility at the upcoming examination of the junior confirmand.

The meeting concluded with Responsive Prayer I.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frank Jackson, secretary pro tem

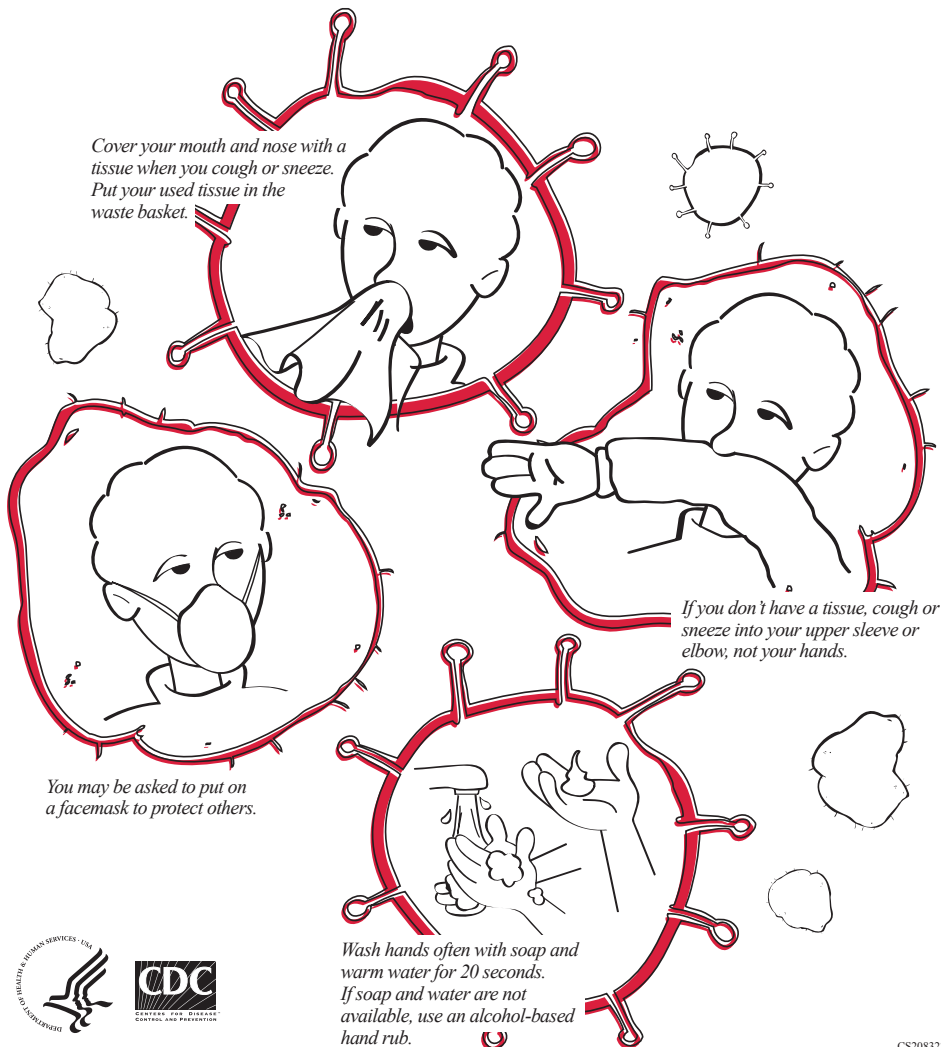
## Preventing the Spread of Respiratory Viruses

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.*

