

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

9:00 am Sunday, December 15, 2024

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

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

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

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

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

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

Invocation

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

The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Kneel]

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

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

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

Introit



[Antiphon] *Rejoice in the | LORD al- way || and again | I will say, Re- | joice.*

Verse 1: **Blessed is he whose help is the | God of •Jacob•, || whose hope is | in the LORD his | God,**

Verse 2: *who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that | is in them, || who | keeps__ faith for- | •ever•;*

Verse 3: **who executes justice for | the op- pressed, || who | gives food to the | •hungry•.**

Verse 4: *The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes | of the blind. || The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the | LORD__ loves the | •righteous•.*

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!**

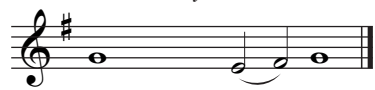
[Antiphon] **Rejoice in the | LORD al- way || and again | I will say, Re- | joice.**

Kyrie



Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

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



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..... Zephaniah 3:14-20

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

Epistle of the Day Philippians 4:4-7

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

[Rise] **Alleluia Sequence**

[Deacon] *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia!*



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Holy Gospel St. Luke 7:18-28

[The Gospel is announced.]

[The Gospel is proclaimed.]



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!



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 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**



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 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 Comfort, Comfort Burgundy Hymn 347
Rejoice, Rejoice Believers Burgundy Hymn 515

[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.



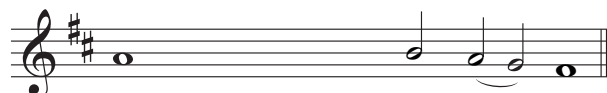
4. Glo— ry__ be to the
Father, and to__ the __ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.



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.



And with thy spir — rit.



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 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 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 Third Sunday in Advent

The Old Testament Reading is Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
“Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.
The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.
I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes,” says the LORD.

The Epistle is Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the

peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel is Luke 7:18-28

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

When John’s messengers had gone, 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 are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. 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.’ I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

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!

LSB347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Johann Olearius

1. “Comfort, comfort ye My people, Speak ye peace,” thus saith our God;
“Comfort those who sit in darkness, Mourning ‘neath their sorrows’ load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover And her warfare now is over.”
2. Yea, her sins our God will pardon, Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day, Now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness Into ever-springing gladness.
3. Hark, the herald’s voice is crying In the desert far and near,
Calling sinners to repentance, Since the Kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
4. Make ye straight what long was crooked; Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord Now o’er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token That His Word is never broken.

LSB515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Laurentius Laurenti

1. Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.

2. The watchers on the mountain Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; The Bridegroom is at hand.
3. The saints, who here in patience Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him Their diadems of gold.
4. Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption That sets Your people free!

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:

Matthew Harrison, Nathaniel Demlow

The Teaching Staff at Lutheran South Unity

Principal:

Amber Bahr (744-0459; www.lsusfw.org)

Teachers:

Yvonne Schwantz (8th, MS ELA), Michael Cullen (7th, MS Science), Chase Mertz (6th, MS Social Studies), Danielle Ramsey (5th), Abbey Kohler (4th), Tiffany Scheurich (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Fink (1st), Rachel Wiegman (K-A), Michelle Madden (K-B), Natalie Reynolds (Art), Open Position (Music), Lizzy Hoham (Progress Partners Coach), Cathie Wakeland (Literacy Coach), Gary Arrington (PE, AD)

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, including Bishop Juhana Pohjola and Dr. Päivi Räsänen
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our fieldworkers Matthew Harrison and Nate Demlow, and for Paul Mroczenski vicaring in Puerto Rico
- + For our nation; for our leaders currently serving and newly elected; for our military, including James Hall
- + 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
- + For those who are on hospice care, especially Janice Grim and John Starks
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Rick Meyer, Jane Porter Gresham, Richard Lammert, TruLaine Starks, Connie Houser, Mike Carson, Estella Ramirez, Kevin Leininger, Bill Weinrich, Debra Busche, Dwight Bieberich, Willodean Bates, Dick Hollman, Jerry & Elaine Seifert, Bob Ockree, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Marlow Hogan, Marissia White, Elizabeth Lindsay, Gary Phillips, Dwight Johnson, Ron Rastl, and Robert & 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, including 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 Third Sunday in Advent. The Cross Bowl is given in loving memory of Vanessa Smith by DaVanna and 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 15, 2024 thru December 21, 2024

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:30 AM	Adult Bible Study	Bauer Hall
	4:00 PM	CLHS's Christmas at the Embassy	Embassy Theatre
MON.			
TUES.	6:30 PM	LSUS's Journey to the Manger	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.	9:30 AM	Book of Concord	Bauer Hall
FRI.			
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church
	12 NOON	Shut in Bags	Bauer Hall

December 22, 2024

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

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Dr. Voelz continues today with the study of the Gospel according to St. Mark. Sunday School is as needed. Parents of young children, let us know your needs.

INSTALLATION Our Zion constitution and bylaws provide for the Council of Elders to establish committees to help with their work and for the appointment of members to these committees. Current committees are Pastoral Support and Assistance, Membership Supervision, Stewardship Policy, Evangelism and Assimilation of New Members, Worship Practices and Assistance, Communication Policy and Practices, and Communion Policy. Appointed members (George Lange to Pastoral, Julie Ganaway and Dave Kaiser to Stewardship, Melvia Culpher and Kevin Leininger to Communication) are being installed today after the sermon.

LUTHERAN WITNESS: if you would like to renew or start getting the *Lutheran Witness*, please make your checks (\$19) out to Zion Lutheran Church before December 31, 2024.

NEXT YEAR'S ENVELOPES are in the Great Hall with your name and number on them. Please take them with you today.

ADVENT MIDWEEK DEVOTION is this Wednesday, 5:45–6:45 PM for supper and Evening Prayer at 7:00 PM. This week has Seminarians Matthew Harrison (preaching) and Nate Demlow (leading the prayers) serving.

SHUT-IN GIFT BAGS: Plan to bring fruit (oranges, apples, bananas) and holiday cookies to church sometime this week. Helpers who can come this Saturday at noon to divide the treats into bags would be appreciated. Bags will be distributed next Sunday so that they can be delivered.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Philippians 4:4-5—“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.” Last week’s verse was Philippians 4:6-7.

YOUR ESTATE PLAN can enable you to express your Christian faith. Someday, when the Lord calls you home, your estate will turn over the financial assets to family, ministry or other charities. Have you ever considered preparing a letter to each of the beneficiaries of your estate, sharing with them why the Lord directed you to share with them? Maybe this could translate into face-to-face conversations right now. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can ask you questions, assisting you to become specific about how your faith translates into your gifting plan. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfn.org.

LIFE DEFENDERS TRIP TO THE NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE College-aged and high school students are invited to join Right to Life of Northeast Indiana on a bus trip to the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. (January 22 – 25). It’s a life-changing experience! Learn more at www.ichooselife.org/dc or call the RLNI office at 260-471-1849. Registration ends Dec. 15. **ALSO,**

SAVE THE DATE: RLNI March for Life is Saturday, January 18, 12:30 PM. The Rally will be outside this year, and there’s a different route for the March. Visit www.ichooselife.org/resources/events/upcoming-events and look for Northeast Indiana March for Life 2025 for more details.

CLHS: Priority Application Period – now to December 20th Submitting your application during this period ensures that your student will receive their financial aid package by mid-February. Please go to the application page at clhscadets.com to apply!

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH MEN’S CLUB (4245 Lake Avenue) is selling Christmas trees and decorated wreaths. The lot is open 2 –8 PM weekdays, 9 AM to 8 PM Saturdays, and 12 noon to 8 PM. Sundays. The proceeds from this fundraiser are used to support various projects and functions of the Concordia Church and school.

A PART-TIME RESOURCE ROOM TEACHER position with LSEM is open at Bethlehem Lutheran School in Ossian IN. If interested, please contact Richard Schumacher at (734) 748-5253 or email him at rschumacher@luthsped.org.

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

For the family of God's Priestly People at Zion

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

Morning Prayer

Luke 7:18-28
Revelation 4:1-11
Revelation 5:1-14
Revelation 6:1-17
Revelation 7:1-17
Revelation 8:1-13
Revelation 9:1-12

DAILY LECTIONARY

The Third Sunday in Advent

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

Evening Prayer

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 32:1-20
Isaiah 33:1-24
Isaiah 34:1-2, 8-35:10
Isaiah 40:1-17
Isaiah 40:18-41:10
Isaiah 42:1-25

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

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Micah 5:2-5a

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-56



What Doctor Luther Says:

About "God for Us" (with Us) in Times of Crosses

16. *On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear.* This is what we have in the psalm (Ps. 118:15): "Hark, glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous." It is as if the prophet were saying: "This is all you will hear, this is all that will be preached to you: 'Do not fear, O daughter of Zion, because you have God in your midst, and He is your King.' Whom then will you fear? 'If God is for us, who is against us?' (Rom. 8:31)" Thus even in the greatest statements of comfort, he still always hints that the cross will come and foes will oppose, but the power of the Spirit will be at hand. It will strengthen them from being broken by evils, from succumbing to them—in short, from fearing their enemies. You see, Satan never ceases attacking the saints. No matter how much they may resist, yet at times weariness and the length of the struggle overcome them, as some of the fathers have said. After all, Satan is always tireless; he is always pressing to completion what he has begun. Therefore he adds:

Let not your hands grow weak. That is, "Persist! Don't stop! Persevere, etc."

17. *He will rejoice over you with gladness.* All these things signify that their consciences would experience that fatherly sweetness of the kingdom of the Lord. The sense is this: "You will feel joy. You will feel in your conscience that the Lord is kindly disposed toward you, that He surely is a kind Father to you in all things." You see, the Lord is said to rejoice over us when He causes us to sense His favor, τὴν αὐτοῦ χρηστότητα ("His kindness"). He has expressed the nature of the kingdom of Christ very aptly and emphatically.

Luther's Works, 18:360-61.

A Call for Love in Deed

Beloved saints, we had an LSUS family experience a tragedy last week-end ... a fire to their apartment, in which they lost everything. The school has asked for, and I pray we might respond with, help. Gas cards and gift cards can be purchased at Julie's Scrip table. Get them to the office, and I can make sure that anything that is given gets to LSUS. Here is the information from Miss Cheng, the LSUS secretary:

I am forwarding information about one of our families that recently experienced a fire in their apartment. I believe Amber spoke with you briefly about the situation. I was able to get uniform clothes and a winter coat for her. Ariza is an 8th grader. This is the information from the mom:

Gas cards and bus passes plz. I think for Christmas just give gift cards to places so they can get what they want. They are still traumatized and still in shock that we lost everything. So they really kinda indecisive of what they want for Christmas.

Ariza

18-20 plus kids (clothes)if can't find that size she can wear a medium woman. 12 women pants Shoe size 11 and a half women. Under wear 16 (kids) deodorant(spray on) body wash, always period underwear, socks, pajamas, coat,hat gloves. Bra XXL kids

Dathan (brother)

18-20 plus kids if can't find that he can wear a small man. He wears sweat outfits. He really doesn't wear jeans. Shoe 10 man Underwear,socks,deodorant, body wash, pajamas, coat,hat,gloves,

Raven (mom)

Large women everything. I don't really wear jeans. I wear sweat pants or leggings.Shoe size 9 and a half women Dishes, toilet tissue, towels,hanger's deodorant, socks, hat, gloves, body wash, pajamas, period pads with the wings, underwear 8, sports bra 3X

Thank you,

--

Allison Cheng

Secretary

Lutheran South Unity School



Zion's Shut-in Members



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

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

Mrs. Diane Turner
2112 E Fairfax Ave
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Mr. Ron Silvers
5202 St. Joe Road #117
Fort Wayne, IN 46835

Mr. Larry Meyer
4416 S Hanna St
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Ms. Rubbie Holliday
1320 E. Pontiac St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46803

Mrs. Cheryl Hogle
1503 E. Paulding Rd. #46
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Willodean Bates
2924 Weisser Park Ave.
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

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

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

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

Mrs. Alice Padgett
4180 Sage Bluff Crossing
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Ms. Debbie Busche
5405 Fernwood Ave.
Fort Wayne, IN 46809

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

Mrs. Virginia Carnahan
6433 S. Derby Dr.
Columbia City, IN 46725



Order Your Poinsettia Plants for Christmas 2024!



PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

DEDICATION _____

___ 8 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$42 each \$ _____

___ 6 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$18 each \$ _____

___ 4 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$10 each \$ _____

___ General Donation \$ _____

___ Pick up plant after Dec 31

___ Give plant to a shut-in

Return this form to the church office by **December 15th**
to have your dedication
printed in the bulletin.



LUTHERAN SOUTH UNITY SCHOOL
K-8 Christmas Service

JOURNEY TO THE MANGER

Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024
6:30 PM

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
3705 S. Anthony Blvd.



LSUS NOTES

Praying for You!



Please pray for these students/staff:

Adonis	Aaleyah
Dakota	Kaylen
Raidyn	DaMichael
Angel	BreEl
Zamara	Mr. Antoine
Josue	Mr. Morales

A Step into Faith: Blessing of Baptism

Baptism is a significant and joyful occasion in the Christian faith. We are excited to celebrate with our staff and students who have recently been baptized!

2nd grader, Jacielle, was baptized at Avalon Missionary Church by Pastor K Paul on November 17th.



Our kitchen manager, Mrs. Antoine, and her son, 6th grader, Wayde, were baptized at Elevate City Church by Kyle and Bethany Mills on November 23rd.

Congratulations, Jacielle, Wayde, and Mrs. Antoine! May God guide and bless you as you continue on your journey in Faith in Him.



If you are interested in getting baptized or have questions

regarding baptism you can contact the office, your student's teacher, or one of our pastors.

Baptism...now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

-1 Peter 3:21



PHOENIX SPORTS

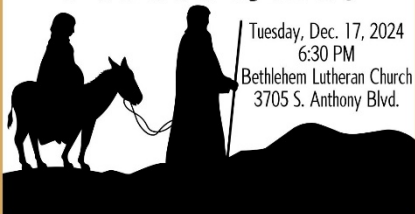


Monday, 12/16 4:00PM Boys Varsity
Home Game vs. Miami Middle School

Thursday, 12/19 5:15PM Boys JV
& 6:30PM Boys Varsity
Home Game vs. ESM

LUTHERAN SOUTH UNITY SCHOOL
K-8 Christmas Service

JOURNEY TO THE MANGER



Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024
6:30 PM
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
3705 S. Anthony Blvd.

Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

- Romans 15:13

MudLove Bracelets for Sale:

LSUS is still selling MudLOVE bracelets to raise funds for the PTO (Parent Teacher Organization.) Bracelets are adjustable (one size fits most), waterproof, handcrafted in Indiana! They come in a variety of colors and have a variety of words or phrases.

Cost: \$10 each

See the office to purchase a bracelet during office hours.





Christmas at the Embassy

The Christ Child:

Our Confidence and Joy Shall Be

At the Historic Embassy Theatre

December 15, 2024 | 4:00 p.m.

\$15 - Students and Seniors | \$20 - Adults



Concordia Lutheran
High School

Tickets available at the Star Bank Box Office or Ticketmaster Beginning October 25



Everything Beautiful

Camp Lutherhaven Women's Retreat 2025

January 24-26, 2025

(Saturday Only Option Available)

Join other women for a weekend retreat at Camp Lutherhaven connecting around cozy fires, small group Bible studies, listening to engaging speakers, and campfire worship as we begin the new year together!

The retreat theme, *Everything Beautiful*, comes from Ecclesiastes 3:11, *“He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.”*

Throughout the weekend retreat guests will focus on the fact that in all seasons – beautiful, hard, confusing, joyful, waiting, grief, mountaintop, etc – God is creating something beautiful.

Keynote presenter, Heidi Meyers, is a retired educator with 40 years of experience and a widow, mother of 2, and Gaga to 3 boys. Teaching middle school and parenting is never a dull moment or for the faint of heart. She resides in Fort Wayne and loves Lutherhaven, swimming, coffee, (perhaps she has stock at Starbucks), time with friends, and her amazing family.

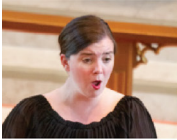
Come on your own, bring a friend, or a whole group of ladies from your church or small group for this weekend getaway!

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

For tickets and more information visit
www.bachcollegium.org



2024-2025 Season



Sarah Shafer



Daniel McGrew



Edward Vogel



Ashlee Bickley



Brad Tatum



Leighann Daihl Ragusa

Sun Nov 10 at 4 pm – Concert I Zion Lutheran Church, 2313 S. Hanna St., Fort Wayne

Ashlee Bickley, *mezzo-soprano*
Daniel McGrew, *tenor*
Edward Vogel, *baritone*
Leighann Daihl Ragusa, *flauto traverso*
Sung Lee, *oboe/oboe d'amore*

J.S. Bach: *Ich lasse dich nicht, du segnest mich den*, BWV 157
J.S. Bach: *Ich armer Mensch, ich Sündenknecht*, BWV 55
J. Brahms: *Warum ist das Licht gegeben dem Mühseligen*, Op. 74, No. 1 [a cappella]
J.S. Bach: *Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin*, BWV 125

Sun Dec 1 at 2 pm – *Messiah* Sing-Along Queen of Angels Catholic Church, 1500 W. State St., Fort Wayne

The joy of singing *Messiah* is open for everyone in our annual *Messiah* Sing-Along, with **Thomas Remenschneider** directing. Bring your own score or borrow a copy we will have available. Holiday cookies will be served.

Sun February 16 at 4 pm – Concert II Trinity Lutheran Church, 1636 St. Mary's Ave., Fort Wayne

Sarah Shafer, *soprano*
Ashlee Bickley, *mezzo-soprano*
Jonathan Busarow, *tenor*
Keith Brautigam, *baritone*
Brad Tatum, *cornò da tirarsi*
Sung Lee, *oboe/oboe d'amore*
Luke Conklin, *oboe/oboe d'amore/recorder*

J.S. Bach: *Herr, wie du willst, so schick's mit mir*, BWV 73
J.S. Bach: *Komm, du süße Todesstunde*, BWV 161
A. Bruckner: *Motets; selection* [a cappella]
Zwei Totenlieder, No. 1, WAB 47
Vexilla regis, WAB 51
Zwei Totenlieder, No. 2, WAB 48
J.S. Bach: *Christus, der ist mein Leben*, BWV 95

Sun April 27 at 4 pm – Concert III Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 917 W. Jefferson Blvd., Ft. Wayne

Sarah Shafer, *soprano*
Ashlee Bickley, *mezzo-soprano*
Mark Vogel, *tenor*
Edward Vogel, *baritone*
Esteban Hernandez Parra, *viola*
Sung Lee, *oboe/oboe d'amore*
Jenni Kirby, *oboe/oboe d'amore*
J.S. Bach: *Wer da gläubet und getauft wird*, BWV 37
J.S. Bach: *Alles nur nach Gottes Willen*, BWV 72
U.W.v. Wassenaer: *Concerto armonico III in A major* [instrumental]
M. Durufle: *Tantum ergo*, Op. 10, No. 4 [a cappella]
T. Kverno: *Corpus Christi Carol* [a cappella]
J.S. Bach: *Mein liebster Jesu ist verloren*, BWV 154

HURRICANE HELENE UPDATE



HURRICANE HELENE made landfall near Perry, Fla., on Sept. 26 as a Category 4 storm. Since that time, it has left a devastating trail of death and destruction across the southeastern United States. The death toll is currently estimated at more than 180 people in six states.

On Sept. 30, the Rev. Dr. Ross Johnson, director of LCMS Disaster Response, departed for a multi-day visit to assess the damage, after which an initial response plan will be developed in cooperation with the districts affected. Other LCMS districts and Recognized Service Organizations are also assisting with the response.

While early reports seemed to indicate the damage would not be extensive, that quickly changed. In Florida, the Tampa and St. Petersburg areas sustained severe flooding, with multiple homes taking in water, making them currently uninhabitable. Meanwhile, south-central Georgia experienced significant tree damage, and western North Carolina — particularly Asheville — remains in dire conditions, with closed roads impeding transportation, and widespread power and cellular outages making communication difficult or impossible.

Johnson encourages everyone in the LCMS to take part in the response as they are able. First, and most important, please pray for those affected by the storms. Second, consider volunteering to assist with the response. Third, consider a gift to LCMS Disaster Response.

PRAYER

Lord of heaven and earth, we know that you hold all things and people in Your hands. In your mercy, provide for the needs of those who have been affected, in big ways or small, by Hurricane Helene. Work through the efforts of those who bring relief, aid and comfort, and protect all involved from any further harm. Most of all, help us to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. In His name we pray. Amen.

TO VOLUNTEER

Visit lcms-1ert.org.

TO GIVE

VISIT lcms.org/givenow/ disaster.

TEXT “LCMSDISASTERS” to 41444.

CALL the LCMS toll-free gift line between 8 a.m. and 4:10 p.m. Central time at 888-930-4438.

MAIL — Make checks payable to “The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod” (or “LCMS”). On the memo line, write “Disaster Response” and mail to the LCMS, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861.

Gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

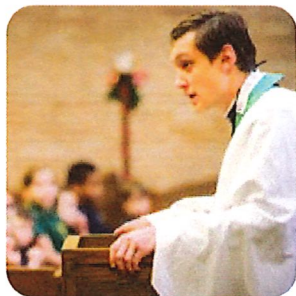


"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now," writes St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians (PHIL. 1:3).

THANKS
be to
God
for those
who work in our
congregations
and schools!

With this same gratitude, we thank the more than 11,000 church workers who serve our Synod with the Word and mercy of Christ. Throughout this month, congregations and schools are encouraged to show their appreciation for all church workers.

For teachers especially we give thanks, who teach God's Word to our children, dedicate countless hours to the classroom, who love the children of God they teach and who live a life of service to Christ and His church.



For all church workers, from pastors to deaconesses to directors of Christian education, parish music, family life and outreach, who teach God's Word and point us to Christ. Tell them "Thank you!" this month for all they do!



Set Apart to Serve seeks to create an intentional culture of church worker formation and recruitment in every LCMS congregation, school and entity. Visit resources.lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve to learn more.


**SET APART
TO SERVE**