

Zion Lutheran Church



December 6th, 2020

Second Sunday in Advent



Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool!

Thank you for joining us in worship of the Lord. We would love to get to know you, and for you to learn more about our church family at Zion. We cordially invite you to talk with Pastor Grimenstein, our Elders, or any of our church members to learn more about our fellowship. At our website -- zlcb.org – you can find out more about the many worship, Christian education, and fellowship opportunities at Zion.

Communion Statement

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, Christ's physical body and blood are present in the bread and wine (1Cor. 11:23-25). We also believe receiving the Lord's Supper is an act of church fellowship. Scripture cautions that those who receive without recognizing Christ's body and blood will bring judgment upon themselves (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Therefore, out of love to our guests, we invite to our altar those who are baptized, confirmed, repentant members of Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod congregations or sister congregations. Visitors desiring to commune are asked to please announce their intentions to an elder or pastor. Everyone is welcome to sing the hymns during communion as we contemplate Christ's mercy to us.

In preparation to receive the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner please consider reading "Christian Questions with their Answers" on Page 329-330. If you are interested in exploring membership, please talk with Pastor Grimenstein after the service, or call the church office.

Opening Hymn – Prepare the Royal Highway

#343



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo-ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom-ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
 So let your praise be sound-ing For kind-ness so a - bound-ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Tune: Public domain

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P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P 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.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C 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.

P 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.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit



P Restore us, | O God;
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

C Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

You brought a vine out of | Egypt;
it took deep root and | filled the land.

Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit;

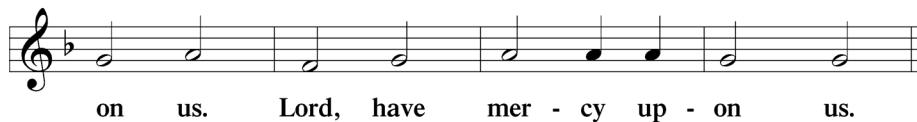
as it was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P Restore us, | O God;
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

Kyrie



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



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading -- Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD'S hand

double for all her sins.

A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.
And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”
A voice says, “Cry!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”
All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Behold your God!”
Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Grace Bell Choir – *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns* (8 am)

Epistle Reading -- 2 Peter 3:8–14

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a

thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

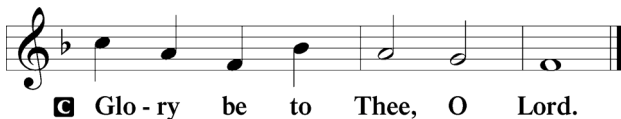
C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia



Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,
the voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now

John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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
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 worshiped 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day – On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry #344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 △ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

P ... Lord in your mercy.

C ... Hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C 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,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

- C** Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My $\cdot\ddagger$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\cdot\ddagger$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



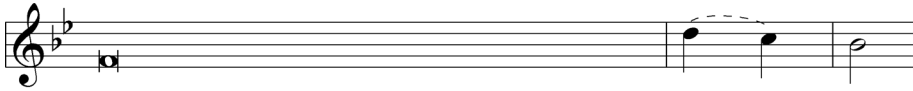
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

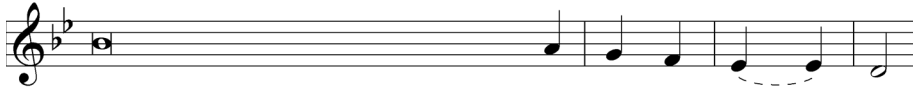
Distribution Hymns

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People	#347
Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior	#619
My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker	#820

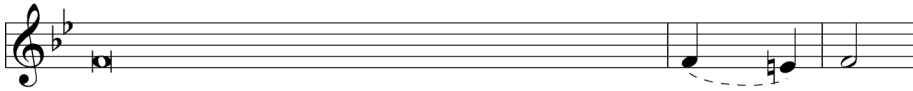
Te Deum



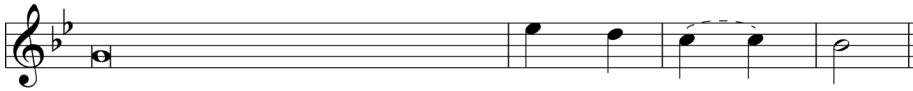
- 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
- 3 The noble army of martyrs praise — You.



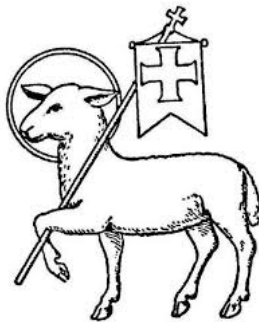
- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
- 3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:

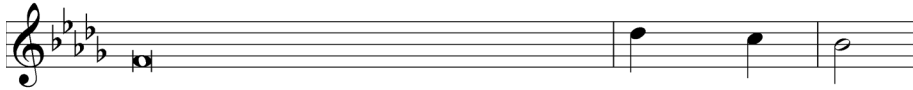


- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
- 2 The glorious company of the apostles praise — You.
- 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
- 4 You are the king of glory, O — Christ;

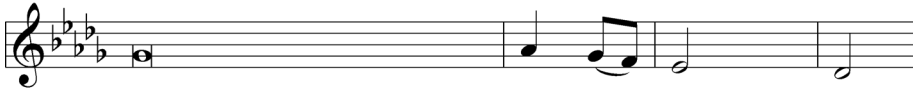


- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
- 2 The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise — You.
- 3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com-fort - er.
- 4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.

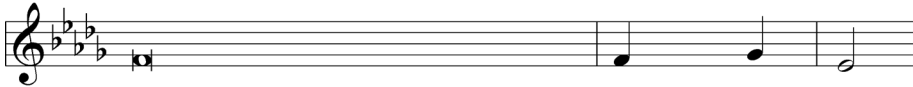




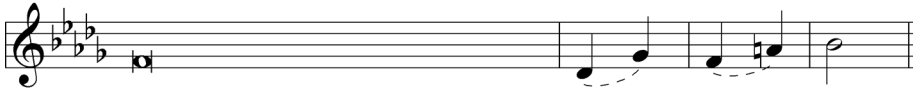
5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



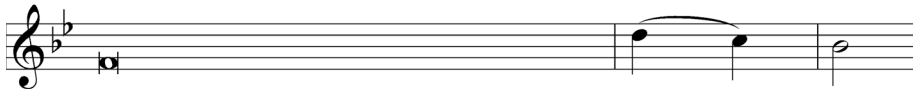
5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come



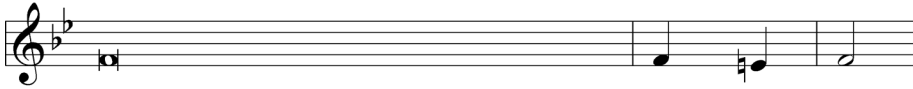
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers,
6 to be - our - judge.



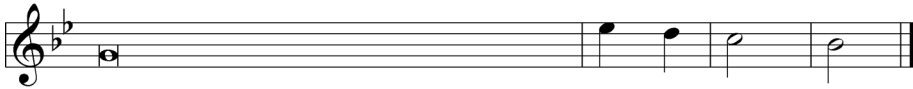
7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.

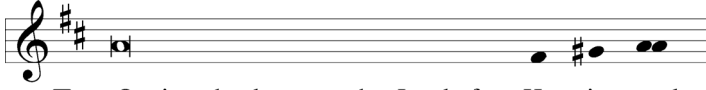


7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints

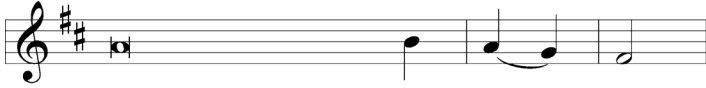


7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.

Thanksgiving



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

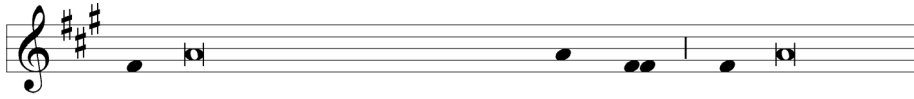


A Bless we the Lord.

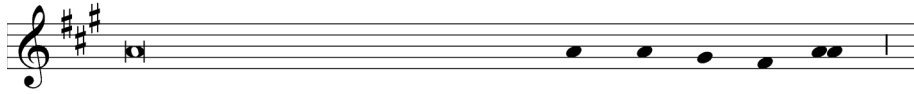


C Thanks be to God.

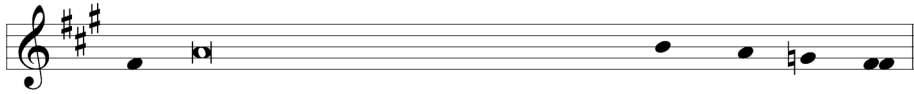
Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.



Closing Hymn – Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers #515



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride - groom is at hand.
In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Prayer Requests for Family & Friends

The Church:

-**For our homebound members:** Tom Bicusky, Florence Boehme, Lois Dittmer, Dolores Preaux, Joan Cisko, Lois Sauro, and Dottie Heslop.

-**Healing for:** Jim Neill, Pastor Wayne Hoffman, Jean Walker, Debra Green, Peter Fisher, Natalia Gonzalez, Mamie Papeaka, Carol Wuerthele, Ruth Rostron, Patti Neill, Judy Graziano, Grant German, Alyssa Mance, Shannon Mance, Darlene Pirmez, Elias Kazas, Janet Hickey, Marian Siek, Joyce Wood, Don and Deana Thielet, Dave Hutula, Ron Valentino, Norma Dyson, Mabel Granke, Bill and Nancy Koester, Mary Reihing, and Jennifer Meyer.

-**For our missions/missionaries,** especially Pastor Wokoma and The Siberian Lutheran Mission Society.

-For all who care for loved ones with illnesses.

-For the ministry of Zion Lutheran Sunday School and Preschool.

The World:

-For an end to the pandemic, and for the safety of all who are fighting it.

-For an end to abortion and human trafficking.

-For the youth in our community.

Our Nation:

-For our leaders and government officials.

-For those in foster care and those looking to adopt.

-For the disabled, unborn and aged.

-For those whose work it is to protect us.

-For godly care of the earth.

† *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandy Quinlan
The Elders:	John Gielarowski, Mike Wallace
The Acolyte:	Will Schrag (8:00) Liv Bonacci (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Janet & Marian Oelschlager
Ushers:	Wayne & Barb Oechslein (8:00) John & Kari Gresh Andy & Dwight Weldon (10:30)

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by the Klemash family in memory of loved ones; and by Andrew Weldon in memory of his grandparents.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by Judith Dames in memory of loved ones.

OUR SECOND MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICE is this Wednesday at 7 pm. Join us as we prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of our Savior!



2021 MEMBER CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES are available on the long table in the back of the sanctuary in alphabetical order. Please be sure to take yours, as well as those of any family members or friends who may not be attending church at this time!

POINSETTIA ORDERS FOR THE SANCTUARY are due today. The flowers will be displayed in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, then you may pick them up following the 7 pm service. Order forms are on the table in the Narthex.



Last Week in Worship

Sunday Worship Attendance (11/29) – 38 (8 am); 50 (10:30 am)
Advent Mid-Week Worship Attendance (11/25) – 35
Saturday Worship Attendance (11/28) -- 8
Sunday Offering (11/29) – \$3440 Online Offering – \$3230

The Week Ahead at Zion

SUNDAY 12/6	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15/9:20 AM – Adult/Teen Bible Study & Children’s Sunday Sch 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion
MONDAY 12/7	6:00 PM – 1 st year Confirmation Class 6:15 PM – Grace Bell Choir 7:00 PM – 2 nd year Confirmation Class 7:15 PM – Adult Choir 8:15 PM – Faith Bell Choir
TUESDAY 12/8	
WEDNESDAY 12/9	7:00 PM – Advent Worship Service – Week 2
THURSDAY 12/10	7:00 PM – Council Meeting
FRIDAY 12/11	
SATURDAY 12/12	10:00 AM - Small-Group Service of Prayer & Preaching w/ Communion. RSVP at www.signupgenius.com or call Susie at 412-977-9066.
SUNDAY 12/13	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15/9:20 AM – Adult/Teen Bible Study & Children’s Sunday Sch 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion



Christmas Eve at Zion

In an effort to provide a Worship Service for those with pre-existing medical conditions and those who are unable to drive at night, we are offering a 3:00pm Christmas Eve service with limited seating (70 persons max). This will be in addition to our regularly scheduled 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

On Monday, December 7th we will email a link to the Sign Up Genius page for this 3:00 pm service. Congregation members who meet these guidelines are invited to sign up using the link throughout the week of December 7th (or call Susie at 412-221-4776, ext 203). If there are still slots available, we will open up this service to all members on December 14th. Thank you for allowing members with these challenges the opportunity to sign up for the 3:00pm service first ... doing so affords them a greater opportunity to worship on Christmas Eve.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS VIDEO!!

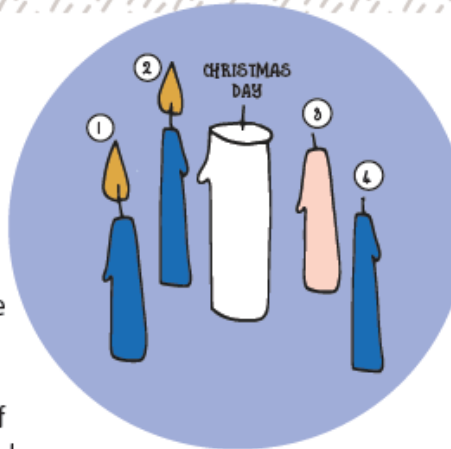
The video will feature our children sharing the story of Christ's birth through the reading of scripture. It will also feature photos, artwork and the Nativity. The short, 5-minute video will be shown directly **AFTER BOTH WORSHIP SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH**. After each service we'll take a special offering to benefit Zion's Sunday School program.



+ + + KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE + + +

What is the Advent wreath?

The Advent wreath is the circle of candles (and/or evergreen branches) that you see in the sanctuary during the season of Advent. Some Advent wreaths hang from the ceiling of the sanctuary while others are placed on a floor stand. Either way, the Advent wreath is one of the many beautiful things you'll see around the church during Advent.



How do we use the advent wreath?

It used to be that the Advent wreath was used in the home to help count the four weeks of Advent. Now you can find them in homes as well as in the church sanctuary. Each Sunday in Advent, a new candle on the wreath is lit. For example, during the first week in Advent, only one candle is lit. During the second week in Advent, two candles are lit. We do this to remember and prepare for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!



Parents: Before or after the Divine Service, allow your children to walk up to get a better look at the Advent wreath. Remind them to be reverent in God's holy places. During this Advent season, try utilizing an Advent wreath at home with family devotions. If you are unsure how to get started, ask your pastor for help.



