Zion Lutheran Church



January 3rd, 2021 Second Sunday after Christmas



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 – O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright #395

- O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light, Aglow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's race, King David's son, Our Lord and master, You have won Our hearts to serve You only! Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious, Rich in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing!
- 2 Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine, And deep within our hearts now shine; There light a flame undying! In Your one body let us be As living branches of a tree, Your life our lives supplying. Now, though daily Earth's deep sadness May perplex us And distress us, Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.
- Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls from God above A ray of purest pleasure.
 Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood Refresh our souls with heav'nly food.
 You are our dearest treasure! Let Your mercy
 Warm and cheer us! O draw near us! For You teach us
 God's own love through You has reached

us.

- 4 Almighty Father, in Your Son You loved us when not yet begun Was this old earth's foundation! Your Son has ransomed us in love To live in Him here and above: This is Your great salvation. Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving
 - Life forever, Keeps us Yours and fails us never!
- 5 O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned, Our voices gladly blending!
 For Christ goes with us all the way— Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! His love is never ending! Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!
 Great is He, the King of Glory!
- 6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last, The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace, Transport us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning! Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

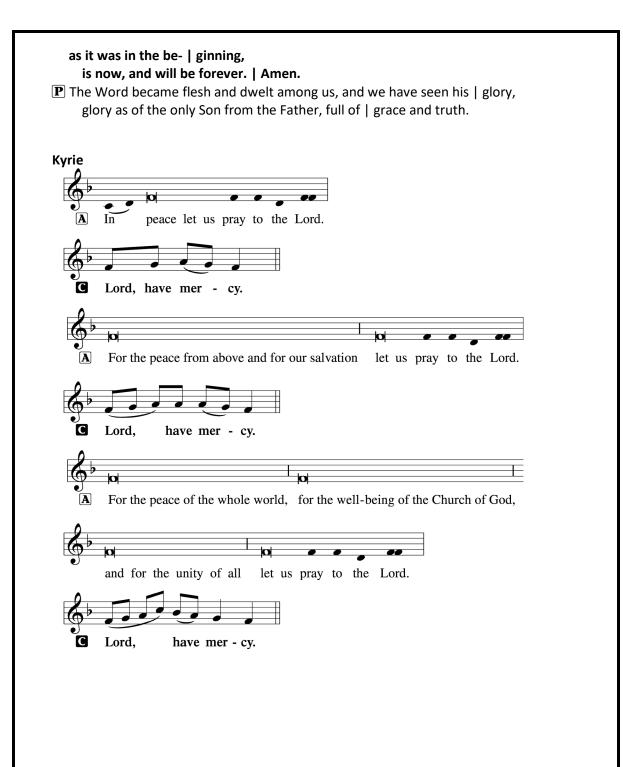
Service of the Word

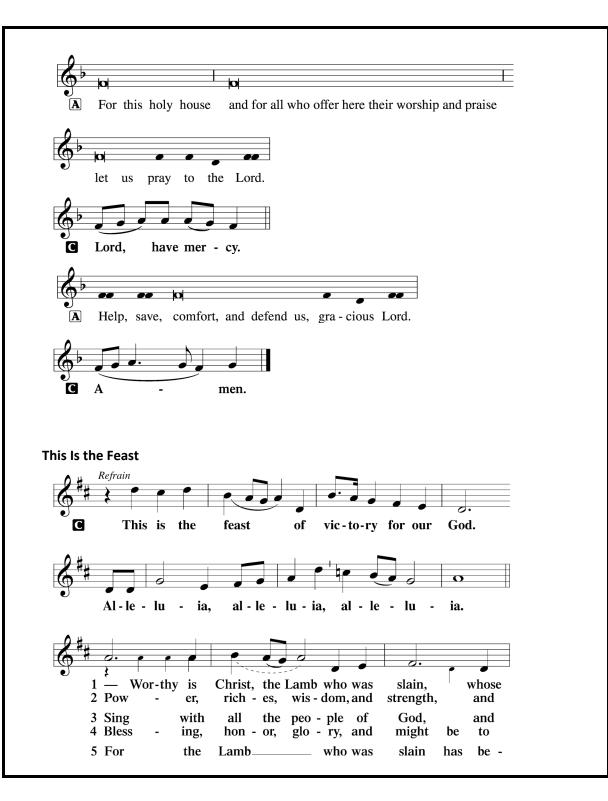


The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.
 Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power; his understanding is beyond | measure.
 But the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him, in those who hope in his | steadfast love.
 Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem! Praise your God, O | Zion!

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







P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading -- 1 Kings 3:4–15

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading – Ephesians 1:3–14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

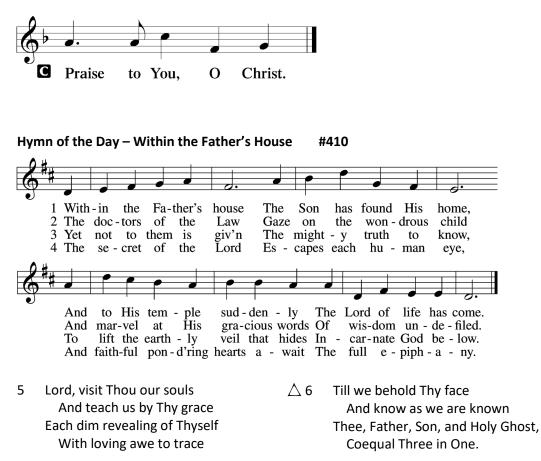


The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Apostles' Creed

G I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified. died and was buried. He descended into hell. the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

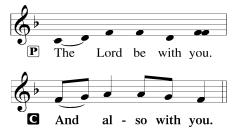
Prayer of the Church

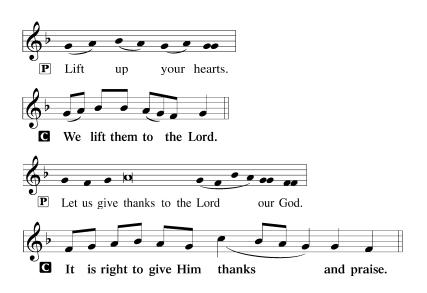
P ... Let us pray to the Lord.

C ... Lord have mercy.

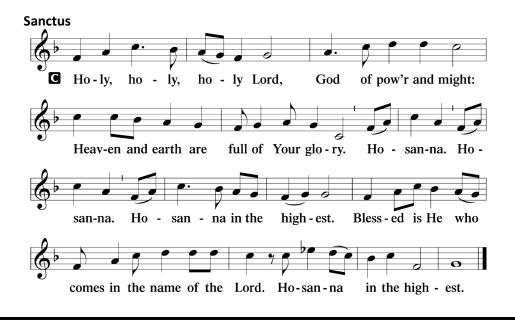
Service of the Sacrament







It is truly good, 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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 ⅓ 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 + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

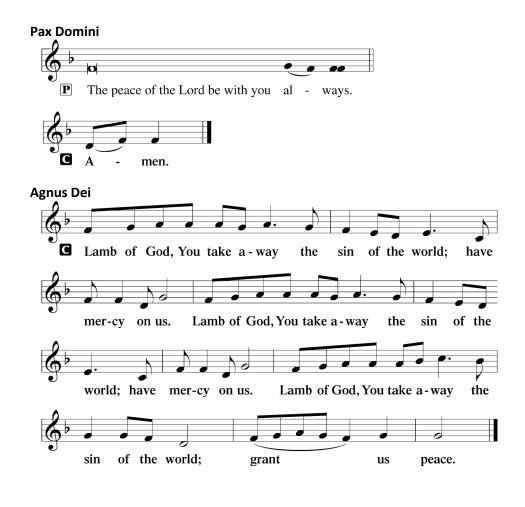
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

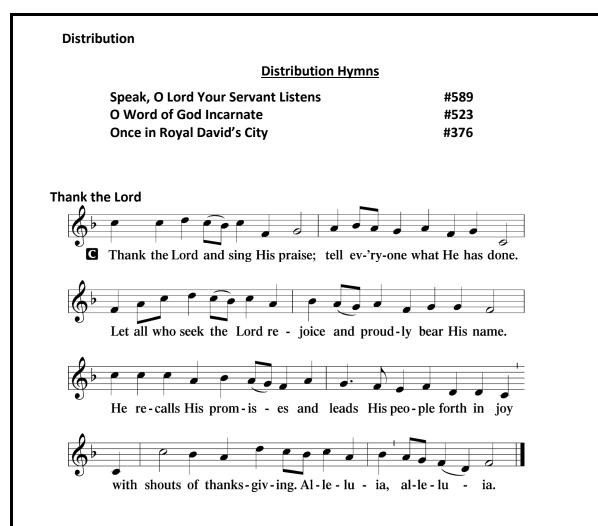
O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

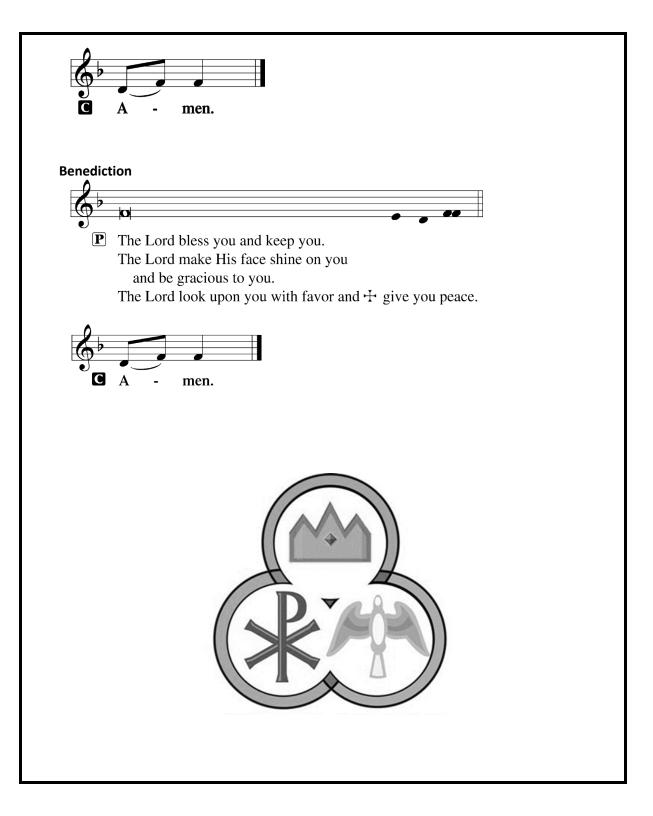


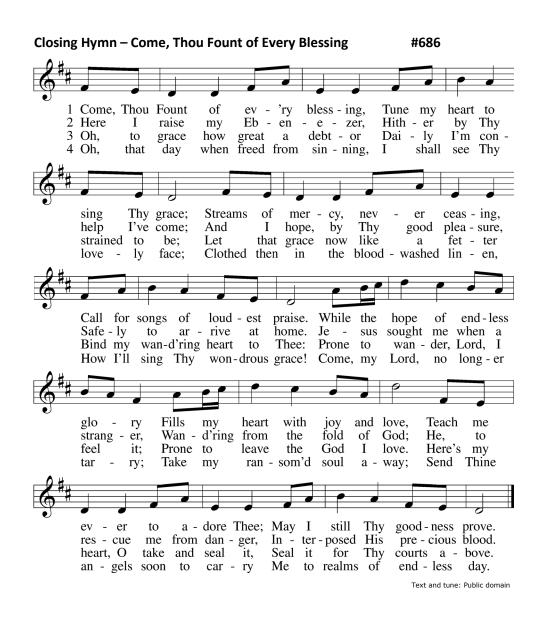


Post-Communion Collect

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.





Acknowledgments

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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: Dwayne Kaufman, Millie Thielet, Jim Neill, Gladys Cimarolli, Peter Fisher, Pastor Wayne Hoffman, Jean Walker, Debra Green, , Mamie Papeaka, Carol Wuerthele, Ruth Rostron, Patti Neill, Judy Graziano, Alyssa Mance, Shannon Mance, Elias Kazas, Janet Hickey, Marian Siek, Joyce Wood, Don and Deana Thielet, Dave Hutula, Ron Valentino, Norma Dyson, Mabel Granke, 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, Roger Diederich The Acolyte: Will Schrag (8:00) Sam Bishop (10:30) Altar Guild: Janet & Marian Oelschlager Kathleen Conn. Michael Grimenstein Ushers: Janet & Larry Zreliak (8:00) Ross Chilcott, Bob Bonacci Bill Koester, Chuck LaJeunesse (10:30)

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Paul & Nancy Klemash in celebration of Lois Ann's birthday; and by Megan & Brian Pasquini in celebration of Decklan's 12th birthday.

ETERNAL LIGHT is given by Zion Lutheran Church in honor of the Christ's Birth.



2021 MEMBER CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES & SPONSORSHIPS FOR ALTAR FLOWERS/ETERNAL LIGHT are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please take your envelopes, and those of any family members/friends who may not be attending church at this time!

CHRISTMAS DECORATION TAKE DOWN this Saturday 1/9 at 2 pm. Please lend a hand! COVID guidelines will be followed.



Last Week in Worship

Christmas Eve Worship Attendance – 60 (3 pm); 83 (7 pm) Christmas Day Worship Attendance -- 21 Sunday Worship Attendance (12/27) – 35 (8 am); 44 (10:30 am) Weekly Offering (12/20—12/27) – \$4815 Online Offering – \$1125

The Week Ahead at Zion	
SUNDAY 1/3	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion
MONDAY 1/4	6:00 PM – 1 st year Confirmation Class 6:15 PM – Grace Bell Choir 7:00 PM – 2 nd year Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting 7:15 PM – Choir 8:15 PM – Faith Bell Choir
TUESDAY 1/5	
WEDNESDAY 1/6	7:00 PM – Mid-Week Worship Service
THURSDAY 1/7	7:00 PM – Elder's Meeting
FRIDAY 1/8	
SATURDAY 1/9	 10:00 AM - Small-Group Service of Prayer & Preaching w/ Communion. RSVP at <u>www.signupgenius.com</u> or call Susie at 412-977-9066. 2:00 PM – Christmas Decoration Removal
SUNDAY 1/10	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

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is The Festival of the Holy Innocents?



The Festival of the Holy Innocents is

the day that we remember the children that were murdered at Bethlehem. These children are considered by some to be the first Christian martyrs. The word martyr (pronouned MAR-ter) comes from a Greek word which means "witness."



What is the whole story of the Holy Innocents?

We learn in Matt. 2:1–18 that King Herod didn't like the idea that a new King was born. He thought that if he killed baby Jesus, his worries would be gone. So he gave orders to have all of the boys in Bethlehem two years and under killed. Herod's soldiers marched into Bethlehem and did just that! But Herod and his soldiers didn't know that an angel had told Joseph in a dream to take Jesus and Mary and escape. When the soldiers stormed Bethlehem, baby Jesus was safe and sound on his way to Egypt. If you think about it, Jesus was saved from death as a baby so that He could die for us a man. What a great and glorious God we have! He keeps His promises!

Parents: Before or after the Divine Service, discuss the meaning of the word martyr. At home, read the story of the Holy Innocents. Be sure to give them examples of other martyrs by reading their stories in Scripture. For example, read the story of Stephen in Acts 6 and 7.

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