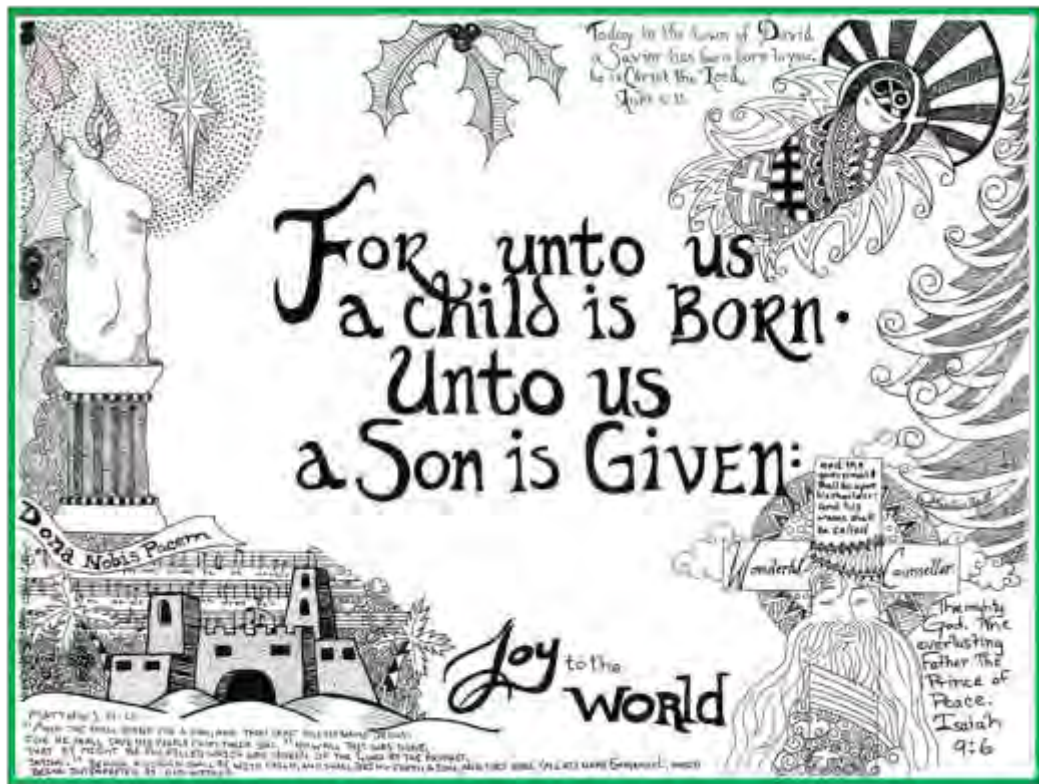


# Zion Lutheran Church



Christmas Eve  
December 24<sup>th</sup> 2016

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Paul & Terry Hayes in Honor of the Birth of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ and the Mance Family in Memory of Loved Ones.
- **ETERNAL LIGHT** is given by the Mance Family in Memory of Loved Ones.
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** leaders are needed for the January Sunday school unit "Jesus is Baptized". Available stations include: Art, Cookery, Games, Science, and Spiritual Practices. A helper for the preschool group is also needed. Please email [sundayschool@zxcb.org](mailto:sundayschool@zxcb.org) to sign up.
- **OFFERING ENVELOPES** are now available in the back of the church. Please take your envelopes. Any questions please see Nancy Klemash. The envelopes are in alphabetical order. If you do not find a box of envelopes in your name, and are a member, and want envelopes to use for your offerings, please let me know. And, if you have been contributing using the **online** system only, and do not desire physical envelopes, please let me know.
- **WELCOME CENTER!** Are you a guest or visitor looking for information about Zion? Hello and welcome to Zion! Stop by the table in the foyer after the service and we'll try to help.
- **BIBLE IN A YEAR** readings are available on our church's website and in your monthly Zion Newsletter. Join us as we read the Bible in a Year in 2016!
- **CHURCH NURSERY:** Is available for kids age 0-2 during the 10:30 Service! The Nursery ("Little Lions") is open during the late service in the lower level of the building. (If you need help locating the nursery, please ask an Usher or Greeter for assistance.)
- **NEED PRAYER?** Stephen Ministers and Elders will be available to pray with or for you following the Service in the Chancel area.
- **TODAY'S GOSPEL READING AND SERMON** will be posted to the ZLCB.org website later today. For an archive of older sermons, visit [www.zxcb.org/sermons](http://www.zxcb.org/sermons)

# Welcome to worship!

Welcome to worship!

If this is your first time at Zion or you haven't joined us in a while, welcome! It is wonderful to have you here with us. Tonight is one of the most exciting nights of the year here at church. The anticipation has been growing for weeks with decorations going up in the church, Christmas parties and programs, and our musicians beginning to practice Christmas songs. Our excitement has finally reached a bursting point, and tonight we get to enjoy singing familiar songs, praying joyous prayers, and rejoicing in the wondrous gift that God has given to us.

Our service tonight is about one person, Jesus, that little baby in the manger. We know from Scripture that the baby Jesus will grow into a man who will die for our sins and rise again for us. That baby in the manger is the most important person in the entire world. The angels tell the shepherds in the fields that they have good news which will be for all people, and that includes you! That manger holds your salvation, holds the one who will save you from your sins. Tonight you will hear of the grace and mercy that God has shown to you on Christmas.

May God bless your celebration of the birth of His Son!

-Vicar Joshua

*Rev. Eric Carlson, Vacancy Pastor*  
*Office Phone: 412-221-4776*

*Vicar Joshua Ulm*  
*Website: [www.zlcb.org](http://www.zlcb.org)*



**ZION EQUIPS, EDUCATES, AND ENCOURAGES BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, SENDING THEM INTO THE WORLD TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.**

Zion Lutheran Church 3197 Washington Pike Bridgeville, PA 15017

# The Service of the Word

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books, located at either end of the pew. If you are visiting us this morning and would like to be contacted by the church, please indicate so in the Attendance Book. We are glad you chose to worship at Zion this morning!)

## *Prelude*

## *Introduction to Worship and Announcements*

*Opening Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful*

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## *The Invocation*

Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## *Confession of Sins*

Vicar: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Vicar: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: 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.**

## *Declaration of Grace by the Vicar*

## ***Kyrie-LSB 152***

V In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

V For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

V For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

V For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

V Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## ***Hymn of Praise***

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We Worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## ***Salutation and Collect of the Day***

V The Lord be with you

**C And also with you**

V Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

## ***The Sharing of the Peace***

V The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

### **Old Testament Reading:**

**Isaiah 7:10-14**

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.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

*Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High*

**368**

### **New Testament Reading:**

**1 John 4:7-26**

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to

believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God**

(Please Stand)

**Vicar:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter.

**People:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel Reading:**

**Luke 2:1-20**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 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!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Vicar: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

***Sermon Hymn: Hark the Herald Angels Sing***

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***Sermon***

(Please stand)



## ***Children's Message***

### ***The Apostles' Creed***

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.

### ***The Collection of the Offering***

If you are visiting with us this morning, know that your presence here means far more to us than any gift of money you could make; please do not hesitate to let the plate pass you by.

### ***Offertory – Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming – Adult Choir***

#### ***Prayer of the Church***

##### ***The Lord's Prayer***

V Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

## ***Benedicamus***

V: Let us bless the Lord

C Thanks be to God

## ***Benediction***

V The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C Amen.

***Candle Light Hymn: Silent Night*** 363

***The Recessional: Joy to the World*** 387

## ***Postlude***

### **† *Service Participants* †**

Vicar:	Joshua Ulm
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Doug Krantz
The Elders:	John Gielarowski & Mike Sterba
The Acolyte:	Anna Gresh & Matt Liberatore
The Crucifer:	Chris Yellig
The Greeters:	Peter & Barbara Fisher
The Ushers:	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop Jack Oelschlager, Ron Meier Ross Chilcott, Dan Harris
Altar Guild:	Chuck LaJeunesse, Rich Quinlan Janet & Marian Oelschlager

### **† *Music Participants* †**

Pianist:	Shelley Killinger & Matt Liberatore
Vocalist:	Mary Ulm
The Organist:	Doug Krantz
Saxophone:	Josh Snyder & Mark Killinger
Trumpet:	Mark Killinger & Carol Killinger
Trombone:	Jesse Carter
Tuba:	Brian Hopkins

# Week of Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> - Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>

<b>SUNDAY</b> 12/25	9:00 AM – Worship  <b>Merry Christmas!</b>
<b>MONDAY</b> 12/26	
<b>TUESDAY</b> 12/27	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 12/28	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 12/29	
<b>FRIDAY</b> 12/30	
<b>SATURDAY</b> 12/31	7:00 PM – New Year’s Eve Service
<b>SUNDAY</b> 1/1	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15 AM – Adult Bible Study 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion

# Middle School Youth Group Event



## South Hills Wyldlife

We will be combining with South Hills Wyldlife this month. Middle School group with Young Life) It is more of a school based thing which will allow kids to bring their friends from school! Feel free to invite someone it's going to be a lot of fun!

Please contact Joe Faini  
if you are willing to drive.  
681-945-5655  
joe@zxcb.org