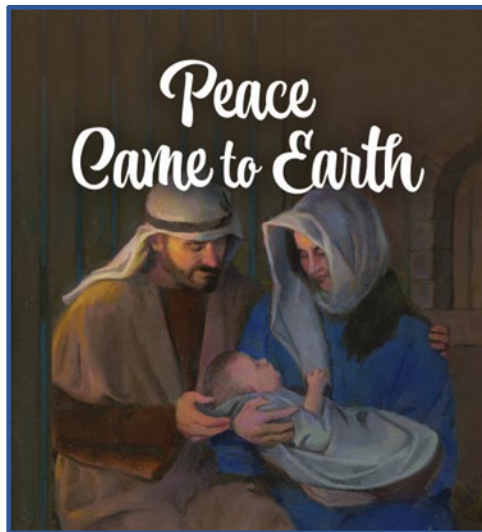


Zion Lutheran Church



December 13th, 2023
Second Mid-Week Advent Service

PEACE TO ALL, NEAR AND FAR

As we pause to contemplate His Word during this second week of Advent, Jesus comes to us where we are and says, "My peace I give to you" (John 14:27). This peace does not come through our attempts to remove ourselves from reality or rearrange the broken pieces of our past. No, it is only by the grace of God that we now receive His peace, His forgiveness, and His restoration through faith in His promises. Gathering us from far and near, no matter who we are or where we have been, our Advent King gives us His peace by means of His death and resurrection. When we trust in Him, we will not simply feel better with a short-term stillness; we will stand fully forgiven by Jesus and at permanent peace with our God.

Opening Hymn (7:00 PM only) – Hark the Glad Sound #349



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

C Amen.

P O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C make haste to help me, O Lord.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 85:1-9

P Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,

C **that glory may dwell in our land.**

P LORD, You were favorable to Your land;

C **You restored the fortunes of Jacob.**

P You forgave the iniquity of Your people;

C **You covered all their sin.**

P You withdrew all Your wrath;

C **You turned from Your hot anger.**

P Restore us again, O God of our salvation,

C **and put away Your indignation toward us!**

P Will You be angry with us forever?

C **Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?**

P Will You not revive us again,

C **that Your people may rejoice in You?**

P Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,

C **and grant us Your salvation.**

P Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

C **for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

P Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,

C **that glory may dwell in our land.**

+ READINGS +

First Reading – Ephesians 2:12–18

Remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading – John 14:25–31

“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard Me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on Me, but I do as the Father has commanded Me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory for Advent

P Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

P In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

Sermon Hymn (7:00 PM only) – **Comfort, Comfort Ye My People** #347



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver.”
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

+ Prayer +

Kyrie

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

+ LITANY +

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
P For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
P 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.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For [*name of president or monarch*], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C Alleluia.

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 ✠ 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."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Distribution

*If you are visiting us today from a Christian denomination outside the
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we welcome you to come to the altar to receive a
baptismal blessing. Please signify by crossing your arms over your chest upon kneeling.*

Collects

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C **And let my cry come to You.**

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer

P During this season of Advent, we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus", Prince of Peace,

C **come, Lord Jesus.**

P bring peace in the land,

C **come, Lord Jesus.**

P make us lie down in peace,

C **come, Lord Jesus.**

P grant peace in our hearts,

C **come, Lord Jesus.**

P may we live in peace with one another,

C **come, Lord Jesus.**

P That as peacemakers we may inherit the earth,

C **come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

Benediction

P Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you.

C **Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."**

P Go forth then, children of God, reconciled by Him who fulfills God's Word, rejoicing in His presence and knowing His perfect peace. The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—be with you and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn (7:00 PM) – Prepare the Royal Highway #343



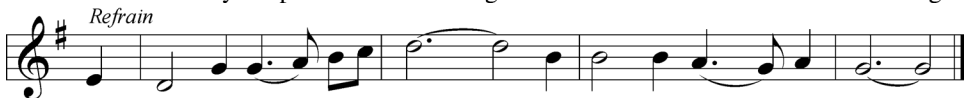
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav' n a - bove.



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!

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004720 Tune: Public domain



There will be three opportunities for Christmas worship at Zion:

- * Christmas Eve (Sunday 12/24) service at 2 pm
- * Christmas Eve (Sunday 12/24) service at 7 pm
- * Christmas Day (Monday 12/25) service at 10 am

A Ō, \$ſ2, \$ ñð@ \$]HŽſC», 10/0 Ž@0 2@j 8
will be played prior to the start of each Christmas Eve Worship Service. The afternoon prelude will begin at 1:30 pm; evening prelude at 6:00 pm. Come early to enjoy the beautiful sounds of this holy season!

PLEASE
NOTE:
Because
Christmas
Eve falls on a
Sunday,
there will be
no morning
services, or
SS, on
Sunday
12/24



New Year's Eve (Sunday 12/31) services at 2 & 7 pm
No morning services or Bible Study/Sunday School