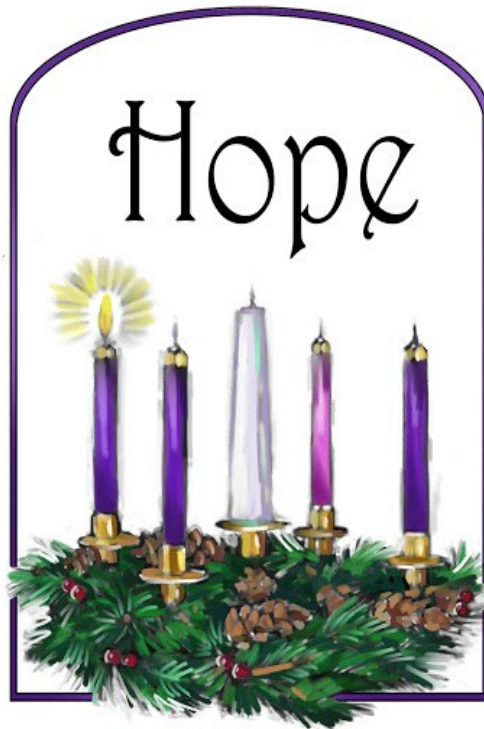


Sunday Morning Worship
November 29, 2020
First Sunday in Advent



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Third & Main Street, Tipp City, Ohio 45371
Church Office: 14 West Walnut Street

1 (937) 667-3110

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INTRODUCTION

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Candle of Hope

We light this candle to proclaim the coming of the light of God into the world. With the coming of this light, there is HOPE. Because of Christ, we not only have hope, but we believe that good is stronger than evil. God wants us to work for good in this world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Savior of the Nations Come

Arr. Bottomley

HYMN #257 (verse 1, 2)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Loving and forgiving God,

C: **we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

P: People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, + comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

REETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people. Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
- C: **And also with you.**
- P: Let us pray . . .
- C: **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

Gary Groth

R: ¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gary Groth

R: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge

of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #251

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

C: **My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord; I sing my Savior's praise!
You looked upon my lowliness, and I am full of grace.
Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age, This blessing shall proclaim—
Great wonders you have done for me, and holy is your name.**

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel is **Mark 13:24-37**

C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

P: [Jesus said:] ²⁴In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.

³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON Pastor Jeff Glawe

HYMN #257 (vs. 6-8)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *(Response after each petition)*

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer . . .**

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.**

OFFERING—INVITATION—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG #815 (verse 1)

C: **I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.**

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus

Refrain **In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

BLESSING

P: The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, + now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN #244 (vs. 1,3,4)

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

C: **The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is:
“Serving Christ through serving others.”**

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

Arr. A.K. Organ

*Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted
to the church office by calling 1 937 667-3110 or e-mail.*

Total Attendance: 69

Unified Giving: \$3,370.50

Building Fund: \$ 220.00

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Unified Giving: \$14,833.00

Expenses: \$17,161.50

September 2020

Building Fund Giving: \$1,948.72

Mortgage Payment: \$2,500.00

Building Fund Balance: \$29,919.10

If you desire more detailed financial information there are ten copies of the balance sheet and income statement for the month of September 2020, on the table as you leave the fellowship hall. If you have any questions please bring them to our next Council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION OF THE MONTH

In November, a Christmas tree, decorated with paper ornaments, will appear in the Fellowship Hall. You are invited to take one or more ornaments from the tree, purchase the item(s) written on the ornament(s), and return them to the tree by the designated date. The gifts for children should **not** be wrapped as the parents enjoy doing that for their children. Watch the bulletins in November for more information.

ANNUAL MEETING . . . This years annual meeting will be conducted in various ways because of Covid-19. Correspondence will be relayed through the mail, bulletins and on the church's website. The voting on the budget and new council members can be done on the church website or in person at the worship services. The final balloting results will be announced after the Sunday Church Service on December 13th. Please look for a letter in the mail along with the church budget the week of November 30th.

ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARD 2021

There are estimate of giving cards next to the offering plate in the back of the fellowship hall. Make sure when you fill one out that you specify by week, month or year. Also, please include your name. Thank you!

REMINDERS FOR THE 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH—DEC. 5 & 6

- **Food Pantry Collection** is the first Sunday of every month. Donations of non-perishable food items can be placed in the green barrel next to the elevator. Needy Baskets picks up the items and distributes the food to those in need in our community.
- **Thank Offering** will be collected in the back of the church by the Women of Faith. Money will be used to support the Good Samaritan Fund here at Zion which assists those in our community who need help paying rent, utilities, medical, gas etc.

POINSETTIA orders are due no later than Monday morning.

CHEER PLATES

Due to Covid-19, the annual Cheer Plates event will not be happening this Christmas season. The folks who receive the plates will find something in their mailboxes soon from the Cheer Plates team. The team hopes to reinstate this fun and yummy event as Soon as the pandemic plays itself out.

2021 WALL CALENDAR SALE

This sale is to benefit the Zion Youth Group. We have sold them in the past and the price is \$7.00. Please watch for the calendars.

ALTAR FLOWERS

We have a new florist in Tipp City. We will resume ordering altar flowers for services on Dec. 5 & 6. The following people are signed up:

Dec. 6	Pat Cowan	
Dec. 13	Mary Rogers	* A 2021 Flower Chart will be posted
Dec. 20	Dean & Lilo Myers	in December.
Dec. 24	Jeff & Jacque Mitchell	
Dec. 27	Earl & Cindy Moore	

NEW E-MAIL & PHONE NUMBERS FOR: Gary & Kathy Groth

E-mail: grothkathleen@gmail.com

Phone: Gary 1 937-216-2746 Kathy 1 937-216-2071