

First Sunday of Christmas
December 27, 2020



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

1 (937) 667-3110

Website: www.ziontippcity.org
E-mail: office@ziontippcity.org

INTRODUCTION: *The psalmist calls on the natural world, celestial bodies, fire and earth, creatures, and all humanity, to praise God. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we tell of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The Little Drummer Boy

Arr. Roed

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of goodness and loving kindness,

C: **we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through + Jesus Christ, made known to all people. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN #288

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

GREETING / 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: Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:10—62:3

Linda Holt

R: ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. ^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Galatians 4:4-7

Linda Holt

R: ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #251 (vs. 3) *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*

C: To Israel, your servant blest, your help is ever sure; The promise to our Parents made their children will secure. Sing glory to the Holy One, Give

Honor to the Word, And praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God by all adored.

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel is **Luke 2:22-40**

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

P: ²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,
³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON Pastor Jeff Glawe

HYMN #290

Go Tell it on the Mountain

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**

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**

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.**

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN #299

Cold December Flies Away

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. Share the gift of Jesus.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Arr. Roed

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Earl & Cindy Moore
in celebration of their 19th anniversary on December 29th.*

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

October 2020

Unified Giving: \$16,148.06

Building Fund Giving: \$1,303.72

Expenses: \$18,094.29

Mortgage Payment: \$2,500.00

Building Fund Balance as of October 31, 2020: \$28,722.82

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

Total Attendance 12/19 & 12/20: 65

Total Unified Giving: \$5,538.00

Total Building Fund: \$1,245.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

F.Y.I.

- ♦ Pastor Glawe will be on vacation on Dec. 28—31.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

12/31/2020 office closed

1/1/2021 Happy New Year! - office closed

1/2/2021 5:00 pm Worship

1/3/2021 10:00 am Worship & Communion

REMINDERS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH—January 3 & 4

- Donations to Needy Baskets will be accepted. Non-perishable food items can be placed in the green barrel across from the elevator. Food pantry volunteers will pick up the items and distribute them to those in need in our community.
- Thank offering will be collected in the back of the church. This offering is used for the Good Samaritan Fund. Tipp City residents in need of help to pay utility bills, rent, food, gas etc. can request assistance from the Pastor.

MISSION OF THE MONTH . . . *The Good Samaritan Fund* assists individuals with utility bill help, rental assistance, gas, an emergency hotel stay, etc. No cash is given to the individual. We help in the form of a check to the utility or rental company. A gas card only good for fuel is given when needed by an individual. For a hotel stay we work out an agreement with the person in charge. For food assistance we refer them to the Food Pantry. We do keep a list of individuals and their request in order to control repetitive requests.

FLOWER CHART

The 2021 Flower Chart has been posted. Please write your name under “presented by”. You may also write a message to go in the bulletin (in memory of, in honor of, in celebration of . . . anniversary, birthday, graduation, special event etc.) on the chart. Altar flowers are ordered from **Always Blooming** and are \$40.00 for two vases. Color preference may also be requested. Payment can be put in your offering envelope (**please designate “altar flowers”**). Below is the address and phone number of the shop for your information.

Always Blooming / owner: Jessica Echols

108 E. Main Street

Tipp City— 1 (937) 506-7460

POINSETTIAS must be picked up no later than today.

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pick.

They are in alphabetical order and can be taken home today. **Please do not use the envelopes until the first Sunday in January (4th & 5th).** New numbers have been assigned to some of the boxes.

Staff

Pastor Jeff Glawe, *Pastor*; Terri Darrah *Choir Director*;
Lori Sebastian, *Organist*; Jackie Glawe, *Christian Education Director*;
Linda Short, *Office Manager*; Sue Rambeau, *Treasurer*; Tina Putnam, *Sexton*