

January 3, 2021
Second Sunday of Christmas



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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INTRODUCTION

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Gesu Bambino

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.

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 #715 (vs. 1,2,5)

Christ Be Our Light

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 have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Bob Keppel

R: ⁷For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

Bob Keppel

R: ³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our

trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

P: 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 **John 1: [1-9] 10-18**

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

P: [¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of

whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")
¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Pastor Jeff Glawe

HYMN Red hymnal #295 (vs. 1-3) *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

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.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *(All who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.)*

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 #487

What Feast of Love

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 *Good Christian Friends Rejoice / He is Born* Arr. Bottomley

Please follow the guidance of the leaders as you exit to participate in Holy Communion.

Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted using a 'Prayer Request' card from the pew rack.

Total Attendance 12/26 & 12/27: 52	12/24 Christmas Eve
Unified Giving: \$5,016.00	\$2,325.00
Building Fund: \$ 190.00	\$ 340.00

TREASURER’S REPORT:	<u>October 2020</u>
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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Jeremiah’s Letter

We will be collecting donations for the Super Bowl of Caring to be used for supplies for their program. We will also collect new or gently used household items. They are especially in need of twin sheet sets, pots, pans, and cooking utensils. A bowl for your offerings and a box for the household items will be in the hall during the month. Jeremiah’s Letter is a faith based agency that assists people in need through several programs. The agency has also been a special blessing to Zion. While volunteering at Jeremiah’s Letter when they were located at St. Paul’s, we mentioned that our old pews needed to be repaired. St. Paul’s had just announced that they were preparing to disband, and we were given their pews for our sanctuary.

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pick up, They are outside the doors of the Fellowship Hall. Any envelopes after this week will be placed in the individuals box.

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*