

December 19, 2021

LOVE



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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INTRODUCTION

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Arr. Wold

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Candle of Love

The Dorn Family

We light this candle to proclaim the coming of the light of God into the world. With the coming of this light, there is LOVE. Such great love helps us to love God and one another.

HYMN Red hymnal #188

Create in Me a Clean Heart

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God for whom we wait,

C: in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away

from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

P: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, + your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #257 (vs. 5-8)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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: **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHANCEL CHOIR

Come, Expected Jesus, Come
Composer: Victor C. Johnson

Director: Bill Jones

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Philippians 1:3-11

P: I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with

knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Red hymnal page 103

C: **Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.**

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel is **Luke 1:39-45**

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

P: ³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Jeff Glawe

HYMN Red hymnal #723

Canticle of the Turning

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.**

EUCHARISTIC 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: The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red Hymnal #439

Soon and Very Soon

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. Christ is near.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

The King Shall Come

Arr. Burkhardt

In Helpful Service

Pastor

Pastor Jeff Glawe

Greeters

May Fischvogt & Jane Athey

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

The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by Dean & Lilo Myers in celebration of their anniversary.

Total Attendance 12/11 & 12/12: 108

Unified Giving: \$6,956.00

Building Fund: \$ 360.00

Sunday School

Children: 15

Adults: 14

TREASURER'S REPORT:

October 2021

Unified Giving:

\$18,495.20

Expenses: \$22,381.02

Building Fund Giving :

\$ 3,492.03

Mortgage Payment: \$2,500.00

Building Fund Balance:

\$24,242.46

If you desire more detailed financial information there are ten copies of the balance sheet and income statement for the month of October 2021, on the table as you leave worship. If you have any questions please bring them to our next Council meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to the Dorn Family for lighting the Candle of Love this evening.

THERE WILL BE A CELEBRATION following worship service this morning. Please plan to participate in the fellowship gathering as we celebrate our 7+ years in partnership with Pastor and Jackie. This is Pastor's last weekend leading worship. Pastor's last day at Zion Lutheran is December 23.

POINSETTIA ORDERS

In talking with Andy's Garden, I was informed that they will only be able to provide red poinsettias this year due to supply problems. They are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

MISSION OF THE MONTH / DECEMBER: 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 a 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 ord

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the back of the church. Please pick up your box of 2022 envelopes as you leave worship. Please do not use these envelopes until Jan. 1 and Jan. 2, 2022.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Beginning in January, there will be an opening for the adult Sunday School teacher. If anyone is interested, please contact Jessica Dorn or Linda Holt. Linda is planning to begin a 6 week course titled “The Miracles of Jesus” in February.

CALENDARS

2022 Wall Calendars are available. Beautiful sturdy calendars with NIV Bible verses and scenery for \$7.00 each. All proceeds go to the Zion Youth Gathering Fund.

FLOWER CHART

The 2022 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 Flowers of Tipp and are \$40.00 for two vases. Color preference may also be requested. Payment can be put in your offering envelope (**please designate under other “altar flowers”**).

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP & HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

12/24—Services will be held at 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm

Communion will be available at both services as well as candle lighting.

12/25—Christmas Day—No worship—office closed—Merry Christmas!

12/26—10:00 Worship—no Sunday School

12.31—New Year’s Eve—office closed

1/1/22—Happy New Year! - office closed—No 5:00 pm Worship

1/2/22—10:00 Worship—No Sunday School

1/8/22—5:00 pm Worship

1/9/22—9:00 am Sunday School, 10 am Worship

Staff

Pastor Jeff Glawe, *Pastor*; Bill Jones & Susie Gray, *Choir Directors*;
Lori Sebastian, *Organist*; Jessica Dorn *Christian Education Director*
Linda Short, *Office Manager*; Sue Rambeau, *Treasurer*; Tina Putnam, *Sexton*