

**January 2, 2022**  
**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**                      *Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming*                      arr. Keesecker

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:**     Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.

**C:**     **Amen.**

**P:**     In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:**     Holy God,

**C:**     **we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.**

**P:**     I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. + In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace.

**C:**     **Amen.**

**HYMN** Red hymnal #283

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

## 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**

R: <sup>7</sup>For 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." <sup>8</sup>See, 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. <sup>9</sup>With 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. <sup>10</sup>Hear 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." <sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup>They 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. <sup>13</sup>Then 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. <sup>14</sup>I 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**

R: <sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as

he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In 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, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In 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; <sup>14</sup>this 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 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 **John 1:[1-9] 10-18**

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

P: [<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own,

and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And 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. <sup>15</sup>(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.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No 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.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON** Pastor Dale Schaefer

**HYMN** Red hymnal #299

*Cold December Flies Away*

## **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:** God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy  
Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace.

**C:** Amen.

### **HYMN Red hymnal #300**

*The First Noel*

### **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. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*Christmas Noel*  
*Ah ma voisine es tu fachee*

arr. Balgastre

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

### In Helpful Service

**Pastor** Dale Schaefer

**Greeters** Jack & Sharon Byrd

**Reader** Linda Holt / **Communion Assistant**

### Total Attendance 12/26:

### 12/24 Christmas Eve

Unified Giving: \$1,450.00

\$2,023.00

Building Fund: \$ 30.00

\$ 100.00

### TREASURERS REPORT: Month of 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 copies of the balance sheet and income statement for the month of October 2021, on the table as you leave the sanctuary. If you have any questions please bring them to our next Council meeting.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MISSION OF THE MONTH:** "Little Kindness" is our Mission of the Month for January. Pam Hale ( sister of Terri Darrah ) heads up this non-profit. Little Kindness sends care bags to hospitals and churches for those going through chemotherapy. During the Covid shutdown, Pam also sent encouraging cards to neighbors and food pantry participants, nurse appreciation gifts, Welcome Back to School gifts and cards for teachers as well as providing lunch for middle and high school teachers. In the lounge at the back of the sanctuary, you will find a small Giving Tree with ornaments hanging from it. Please take one or more tags and purchase the item(s) and return them to the tree by the end of the month.

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Beginning January 9, the Adult Sunday School will begin a 4-part series titled “If: Trading Your Regrets for God’s What If Possibilities” by Mark Batterson. There will be a video and discussion on the topics “If Only”, “As If”, “What if” and “No ifs, Ands, or Buts About It.”

## **CHOIR REMINDER**

Choir will resume with a rehearsal on Wednesday, January 5th as usual with a performance on Sunday, January 9th.

## **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”**).

**Available dates:** Jan. 2,9,30—Feb. 20—Mar. 6 —Apr. 3—May 1,8,22,29—  
July 10, 24—Aug. 14,28—Sept.18—Oct. 9,23—Nov. 6—Dec. 11, 18.

## **Staff**

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