

Sunday, November 27, 2022

HOPE



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If this is your first visit, or if you worship here regularly, we are delighted that you chose to share with us. We worship together on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you have a “prayer request” or a “praise report”, please let the pastor know. God bless you on your journey of faith.

INTRODUCTION

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Arr. Portman

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Candle of Hope Keppel/ Kessler

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. Such great love helps us to love God and one another.

HYMN Red hymnal #257 (vs. 1 & 2)

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

C: **Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

P: Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of new beginnings,

C: **we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your**

way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

P: People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on + Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #435

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

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. 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 2:1-5

R: ¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

R: ¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 **Matthew 24:36-44**

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

P: [Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶"About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Dale Schaefer

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 eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Purple hymnal ACS #949 *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

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

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Arr. Hobby

In Helpful Service

Pastor	Dale Schaefer	
Acolyte	Hannah Kessler	
Greeter	Lois Davis	
Reader	Debbie Weprin	
Communion	Kervyn Mach	Assistant

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 Chalmer & Judy Mader in celebration of the 60th wedding anniversary on December 1.

Staff

Dale Schaefer, Interim 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*

11/12 & 11/13

Total Unified Giving: \$3,032.00

Building: \$200.00

11/19 & 11/20

Total Attendance: 97

Sunday School: Adults: 13 Kids: 12

Total Unified Giving: \$2,706.00

Building: \$147.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to the Keppel/Kessler Family for lighting the Candle of Love this morning.

REMINDERS FOR NEXT SATURDAY & SUNDAY, Dec. 3 & 4

- **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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On December 4, 2022, we will have a congregational meeting after the 10:00 am service for the purpose of authorizing the purchase of a new boiler and air conditioning units for the sanctuary area. The proposed cost is \$54,162. We have the money and the contractor says all the necessary parts are available, so he can complete the work in seven to ten days.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Adopt-A-Family

A Christmas tree, decorated with paper ornaments, will appear in the lounge area just outside the sanctuary. 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, December 4th. The gifts for children should **not** be wrapped as the parents enjoy doing that for their children.

CHEER PLATES

Preparing and delivering Cheer plates to our shut-ins is an annual Christmas tradition at Zion. Debbie Turner has requested that 2 dozen baked goods (cookies, breads, brownies, fudge, candy fruits, (No Nuts). We will also need people to assemble and deliver plates.

Deadline for bringing in items: 10:00 a.m., Monday, December 5

Assembling plates: Begin at 10:00 am Monday, Dec. 5

FLOWER CHART

The 2023 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”**).

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday, Nov. 27	1:00 pm	Randall House Outreach
Monday, Nov. 28	11:00 am	Quilting
Tuesday, Nov. 29	10:00 am	Quilting
	8:00 pm	AA
Wednesday, Nov. 30		No Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Dec. 1	6:00 pm	Women of Zion Christmas Dinner
	6:30 pm	Girl Scouts / basement
Saturday, Dec. 3	5:00 pm	Worship
Sunday, Dec. 4	9:00 am	Sunday School / Confirmation Class
	10:00 am	Worship & Communion
Monday, Dec. 5	11:00 am	Quilting
	6:00 pm	Property Committee
Tuesday, Dec. 6	10:00 am	Quilting
	8:00 pm	AA
Wednesday, Dec. 7	6:00 pm	Advent Service
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, Dec. 9	7:30 pm	Ohio Valley British Brass Band Concert / Fellowship Hall
Saturday, Dec. 10	5:00 pm	Worship / Dinner @ Dos Lunas following worship
Sunday, Dec. 11	10:00 am	Worship / Christmas Program