

Sunday Worship
December 8, 2024

PEACE



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Third & Main Street, Tipp City, Ohio 45371
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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time, will you please fill out a visitor card, available in the pew rack in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate. Whether this is your first visit or 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

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Mary Did You Know

Arr. Raney

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

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 mercy,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P: God of might,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

P: God in our midst,

C: **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #249

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . .

C: **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

KYRIE Red hymnal #98

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - HYMN OF PRAISE

Light one candle for hope
One bright candle for hope
He brings hope to ev'ry heart,
He comes. He comes

Light one candle for peace
One bright candle for peace.
He brings peace to ev'ry heart,
He comes, He comes

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THE WORD

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

R: ¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.
²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness.
⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Luke 1:68-79

R: ⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, You have come to your people and set them free.

C: ⁶⁹You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David.

R: ⁷⁰Through your holy prophets, You promised of old to save us from our enemies, ⁷¹from the hands of all who hate us,

C: ⁷²to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant.

R: ⁷³This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: ⁷⁴to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

C: free to worship You without fear, ⁷⁵holy and righteous before You, all the days of our life.

R: ⁷⁶And You, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for You will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

C: ⁷⁷to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

R: ⁷⁸In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

C: ⁷⁹to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

R: 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 on 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 #103

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord. Save us as you promised; we will trust your Word.

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Gospel according to **Luke 3:1-6**

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

P: ¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Jaren Summers

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 *(Response after each petition)*

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer . . .

OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG #188 *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

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.

COMMUNION PREFACE #107 & 108

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise....we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are

C: full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYERS WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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 of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, + bless and keep you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #267

Joy to the World

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. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

Arr. Burkhardt

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Gary & Kathy Groth in honor of their 6 grandchildren and their 55th Anniversary.*

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

In Helpful Service

Acolyte Noah Garvic
Pastor Jaren Summers
Communion Assist Charlotte Dorn

Greeters: Reese Clum Readers: Marissa Kessler - 1st Reading
 Madison Dorn Hannah Kessler - Psalm
 Carly Schlater Alex Garvic - 2nd Reading
 Jason Schlater
 Merik Schlater Ushers: Charlotte Dorn
 Savannah Schlater

ATTENDANCE 11/30 & 12/1: 88

Unified Giving: \$3,600.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT SCHEDULE:

Advent Service	December 11th	6:00 pm
Christmas Eve Service	December 24th	7:00 pm

MISSION OF THE MONTH: *ELCA GOOD GIFTS*

On the Christmas tree in the lounge area, you will find ornaments that have pictures of animals and other needed items for those in need throughout the world. For example, you may pay for ten chicks for \$10, honeybees for \$20, seeds and gardening tools for \$50, a clinic visit for a child for \$10. You can also donate any amount of money and the Women of Zion can put the money toward a more expensive animal - like a goat for \$50!

Please take an ornament and return it with a check made payable to Women of Zion. Please place your check in the basket on the table in the lounge by December 31st. Any questions contact Deb Keppel.

THE ALTAR FLOWER CHART for 2025 is posted and filling up fast.

TIDINGS CORRECTION: There is no Women of Zion Meeting on Dec. 8th.

CHEER PLATES are being put together on Tuesday, December 10th at 10:00 am. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hallway to donate food, assemble the plates and deliver them.

Staff

Jaren Summers, *Pastor*; Bill Jones & Susie Gray, *Choir Directors*;
Lori Sebastian, *Organist*; Jessica Dorn, *Christian Education Director*;
Annette Calicoat, *Office Admin*; Sue Rambeau, *Treasurer*;
Tina Putnam, *Custodian*