



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
HOLY COMMUNION
Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 1, 2024 – 10:00 AM

WELCOME!

We are delighted you are here today! No matter who you are, or where you are in life's journey, you are welcome at Zion. All, without exception, are welcome to Holy Communion.

We invite you to wear a name tag. Single use name tags are available on the welcome table in the gathering space. When you desire one, a permanent name tag will be provided.



Connect with us or update your contact information! Please scan this QR code using your phone. You can indicate prayer requests and find a link to subscribe to our weekly email newsletter. You may also fill out a Welcome Card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

We are blessed to be able **livestream** our worship service, available on YouTube and the Zion Facebook page. While our cameras are generally directed at the front of the sanctuary, please be aware that you may appear in the livestream. Our Children's Sermon is blurred during the livestream.

Wi-Fi Network: Zion Guest Wi-Fi Password: Zion5822321

Please join us for coffee hour after worship in the Atrium (near east entrance).

Prayer Podium – inside the center entrance to the sanctuary is a Prayer Podium where you can write your prayer request(s) to be included in today's Prayers of Intercession.

We welcome children of all ages and we welcome the sounds and actions that accompany them. Children are invited to enjoy the carpeted space in the rear of the worship space. There are activity bags, hanging on hooks along the back wall, for children to use. Check out our Kids Station in the same area.

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary, but if you desire childcare, our nursery, located downstairs, is available from 9:45 to 11:15 am, for ages 5 years and younger.

All floors of the building are accessible by elevator. Special seating areas in the sanctuary are available to support those with wheelchairs, walkers, or strollers.

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Wachet auf”

J. S. Bach

** Indicates stand as you are able*

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs. 1

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 244 *

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING *

Let us pray. **We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ’s advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.**

As the first candle is lighted, we sing:



Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va-tion to Is-ra-el, God ful-fills the prom - ise.

GREETING, HYMN OF PRAISE, & PRAYER OF THE DAY *

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**



A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn-ing. Sing out your joy, for
dark the win - ter and cheer-less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all heart to -
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-10

Refrain

D. Chamberlin



To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. My God, I put my trust in you.

Let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Refrain

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.
Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
You are gracious and upright, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.
You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.
All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

Refrain

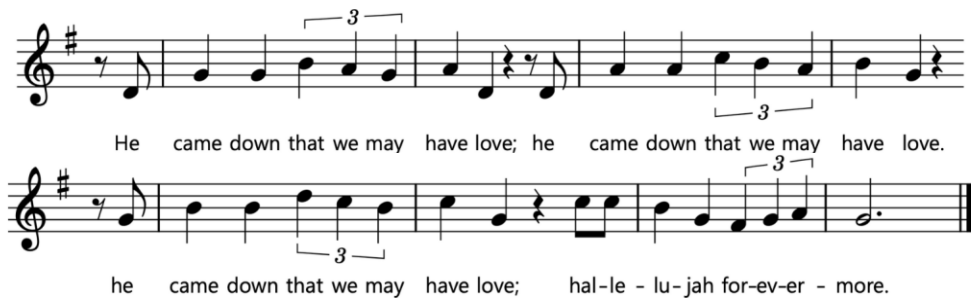
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *



He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love.
he came down that we may have love; hal-le - lu-jah for-ev-er - more.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is

near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

Following the reading, repeat Gospel Acclamation.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 260 *

The King Shall Come

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 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 INTERCESSION *

After each petition ending: Lord, in your mercy, congregation responds: **receive our prayer.**

Pastor: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy, **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might, **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst, **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

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. **Amen.**

THE PEACE *

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERING

With gratitude, we receive offerings during worship to support the mission and ministries of Zion Lutheran Church. You may make your Sunday offering in one of two ways:

- ✚ By placing your offering in the plate that is passed now or
- ✚ By scanning the QR code with your phone.



MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

“Keep Silence”

John Helgen

OFFERTORY *



1 We are a - wait - ing the com - ing of Je - sus,
2 We are the vine you have plant - ed and tend - ed;
3 We bring these signs of our lives whol - ly giv - en;



yearn - ing in dark - ness for light and for peace,
we are the wheat you have wa - tered and sown.
let them for us be Christ's wine and Christ's bread



long - ing at last to re - joice on that
Take our first - fruits, take our bowed heads of
poured out in love for the heal - ing of



day when all peo - ple join in this feast.
grain, in - crease them and make them your own.
all and bro - ken that all may be fed.

OFFERING PRAYER *

Let us pray. **Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

We praise you, living and loving God, that you have sent your Son to this world. Christ is your Wisdom, sweetly ordering all creation, our Lawgiver, burning with justice, the Branch from Jesse's tree, sprouting flowers from old roots, the Key of David, opening our prison doors.

And let the people cry: **O come and save us.**

We praise you, serving and saving God, that you send your Son also to this table, who on the night before he died took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

And let the people cry: **O come and save us.**

We beg you, mighty and merciful God: send us the Spirit of your Son. Dwell in this food and in all who share it, that the earth may rejoice in your presence. In Christ, the Dawning Day, enlighten a darkened world, reign as Sovereign to unite all peoples, and live among us, Emmanuel, our deepest desire now and forever.

And let the people cry: **O come and save us.**

Even so, come, Lord Jesus, with your Father and your Spirit, to the church, and receive our praises, now and forever. **Amen.**

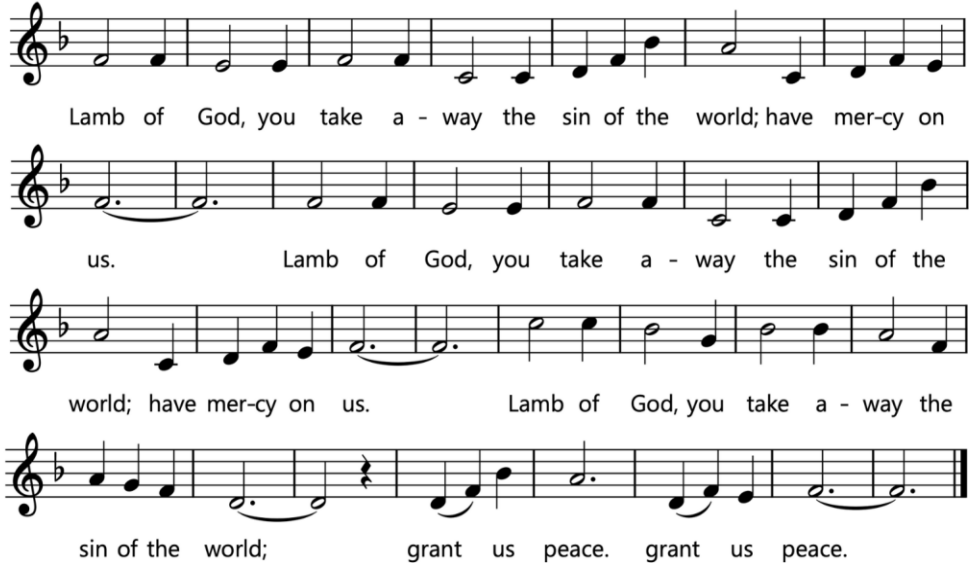
And let the people pray:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. Blest be God, who is our Bread; may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.

As we look for the coming of God's reign, let us pray as Christ has taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to Holy Communion at Zion. To receive communion, please come forward at the direction of the ushers, forming two lines in the center aisle.

To receive the bread, place one hand in the other, like a manger or a bowl. Once you receive the bread, you may eat it. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Continue to the side to receive either wine (red) or grape juice (white) in an individual cup.

If you would like to receive a blessing only, simply cross your arms in an x form across your chest and you will receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN 715

Christ, Be Our Light

COMMUNION HYMN 535

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

TABLE BLESSING AND PRAYER *

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray. **Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.**

BLESSING *

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey: Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 248 *

People, Look East

DISMISSAL *

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Toccatà: The King Shall Come

Chamberlin

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TODAY'S MINISTRY LEADERS

Preaching & Presiding Minister	The Rev. Tony Auer
Assisting Minister	Sabrina Bell
Organist/Pianist	David Chamberlin
Chancel Choir Director	Dave Zabriskie
Crucifer	
Reader	Liz Prystas
Cantor	Rachel Kibler
Communion Assistants	Liz Prystas & Susan Auer
Altar Guild	Ann Marie Mogren & Tracy Hackworth
Ushers	Doug Graham & Mike Gruenhagen
Counters	Ann Marie Mogren & Bob Hackworth
Fellowship Hosts	Bill & Julie Mackie

Congregation Council:

President: Ross Anthony; Vice-President: Joe Darnell; Treasurer: Dennis Gross;
Secretary: Liz Prystas; Sabrina Bell, Tracy Hackworth, Jon Hall, Steve Newton, Nathan Seegert



Zion Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation – We are committed to being a loving and welcoming community of faith in Jesus Christ. As a community of God, we welcome all. We celebrate the manner in which diversity enriches, nurtures, and challenges the life and ministry we share in Christ. Our Table is open and we invite all to full participation in the life of our church regardless of race, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, socio-economic and marital statuses, physical or mental capacities, age, or social position. We commit to the work of anti-racism and all forms of structural, systemic, institutional, and personal bias.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
Friday – offices closed

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The Rev. Tony Auer, Assisting Pastor (Retired)	papatony50@gmail.com
David Chamberlin, Organist	david@chamberlinmusic.com
Dave Zabriskie, Chancel Choir Director	davecomposer@gmail.com
Susan Swidnicki, Children’s Choir Director	sljswidnicki@gmail.com
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Sabrina Bell, Director, Let Me Shine! Preschool	director@letmeshine.org
Holly Graham, Assistant Director, Let Me Shine!	holly@letmeshine.org

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secure, Confidential Online Statement of Intent - For those who wish a secure, confidential online version of our Abundant Grace, Abundant Giving Statement of Intent for 2025 is available now.



Scan this QR code with your phone to go to the form.

A Series of Conversations on Lutheran Identity with Pastor Tony - These days at Zion Lutheran Church, many of our newcomers are from non-Lutheran or even non-Christian backgrounds. We are blessed and enriched by these people!

While perhaps not raised in the practice and theology of the Lutheran tradition, many want to know what the Bible is about and what the church stands for.

To address this curiosity, Pastor Tony will present *A Series of Conversations on Lutheran*

Identity. These classes meet Sunday mornings at 9 am. The first series will meet on December 8th, 15th, and 22nd. We will present an *Overview of the Bible, Old and New Testaments*; the *History of the Bible, How It Came Into Being*; and, *How We Use the Bible as Our Guide and Authority*.

These classes are intended for those new to Lutheranism and Christianity. If this is you, please come! If you know of someone who might be interested, let them know!

Wine & Cheese Party – Saturday, December 7th, hosted by David & Cynthia Rowatt, 7:00 – 9:00 PM. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share, along with your favorite beverage. Contact the church office for directions.

Gingerbread House Activity – December 15th, immediately following worship, head downstairs for a quick soup and salad lunch. Graham cracker house and white icing will be provided. Participants need to bring at least one decorating item to share. Please sign up in the Narthex so we have enough houses; help needed before, during and after the activity.

Donate a Poinsettia for Christmas - We beautify our sanctuary for Christmas with poinsettias. Please scan to this QR code to use a form to donate Christmas poinsettias in memory of or thanksgiving for a loved one. Cost is \$10 per poinsettia. Please mark "Poinsettia" on your check or other form of payment and submit to the church office by December 16. Thank you!



Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study - We will meet Sundays at 9:00 am to discuss the lessons of the day. (Forthcoming lessons are found at the end of the bulletin.) We will meet in the Lounge (directly across from the sanctuary). All are welcome. Contact Alyce Gross with questions. 801-557-9646; adgross1@msn.com.

Informal Yoga Exercise Group – Please join us at 10AM in the atrium each Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Bring your yoga mat. No experience needed!

Crossroads Urban Center – Zion is a drop off for Crossroads Urban Center, receiving donations of food and small household items for those in need across the Salt Lake Valley (the drop off bin is directly under the stairway leading to the balcony). Thank you to all Zion members and friends who have donated to Crossroads and a special thank you to those who deliver the donations. **Currently in need of diapers (sizes 4-6), wipes and formula.**

Attendance November 24, 2024 Worship: 112

Looking Ahead – Readings and Psalm for next Sunday
Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6