



SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
HOLY COMMUNION  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship  
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
January 4, 2026 – 10:00 AM

# WELCOME!

We are delighted you are here today.  
Everyone is welcome at Zion and all – without exception – are welcome  
to Holy Communion.

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## FREE COFFEE

Why not join us for some great coffee and conversation after worship near the east entryway. See you there!



## CONNECT

To connect with the Zion community, scan this QR code. You can indicate prayer requests and find a link to subscribe to Zion's newsletter.



## PRAYER PODIUM

Inside the sanctuary entrance is a Prayer Podium. You can write prayer request(s) to be included in today's Prayers of Intercession.



## ACCESSIBILITY

All floors of the building are accessible by elevator. Sanctuary space is available for those with wheelchairs, walkers, or strollers. Please ask an usher if assistance is helpful. Large print bulletins are available.



## NAME TAGS

We want to be a place where everyone knows your name! Name tag stickers are available on the welcome table in the gathering space. When you want one, a permanent name tag will be provided.



## WORSHIP LIVESTREAM

We livestream worship on YouTube and the Zion Facebook page. You might appear in the livestream, but for security purposes, our children's sermon is blurred.

WiFi Network: Zion Guest  
WiFi Password: Zion5822321



## CHILDREN

We welcome kids of all ages! Children are invited to enjoy the carpeted zone in the rear of the sanctuary. There are activity bags on hooks along the back wall. Check out our Kids Station in the same area. **If you wish to take your child (<4 yrs) to the nursery it is located in the lounge across from the sanctuary and staffed.**

# GATHERING

*\* Indicates stand as you are able*

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN 672 \*

*Signs and Wonders*

CHRISTMAS LITANY

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

The earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep.

**He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.**

Then God said, "Let there be light", and there was light.

**What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

And God saw that the light was good.

**The true light which enlightens everyone was coming into the world.**

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit;

**Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE \*

*Joy to the World*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her king;

let ev'ry heart prepare him room

and heav'n and nature sing,

and heav'n and nature sing,

and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY \*

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

Let us pray. 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.**

## WORD OF GOD

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

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."

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.

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 where they shall not stumble,  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

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 does a flock."

For the Lord has ransomed Jacob  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.  
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.  
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.  
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the Lord.

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

#### PSALM 144:12-20

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,  
**who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**

God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**

God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.

**God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God's cold?**

The Lord sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

**God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel.**

The Lord has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

## SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

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, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 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, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 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; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

## GOSPEL VERSE \*

Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!

## HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-5, 10-18 \*

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

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. (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.' ") From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

## CHILDREN'S TIME

## SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 510 \*

*Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

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: Hear us, O God, congregation responds:* **your mercy is great.**

*Pastor concludes:* With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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
- ✚ Scan the QR code with your phone.



### MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

### OFFERING PRAYER \*

Let us pray. God of glory, **great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING \*

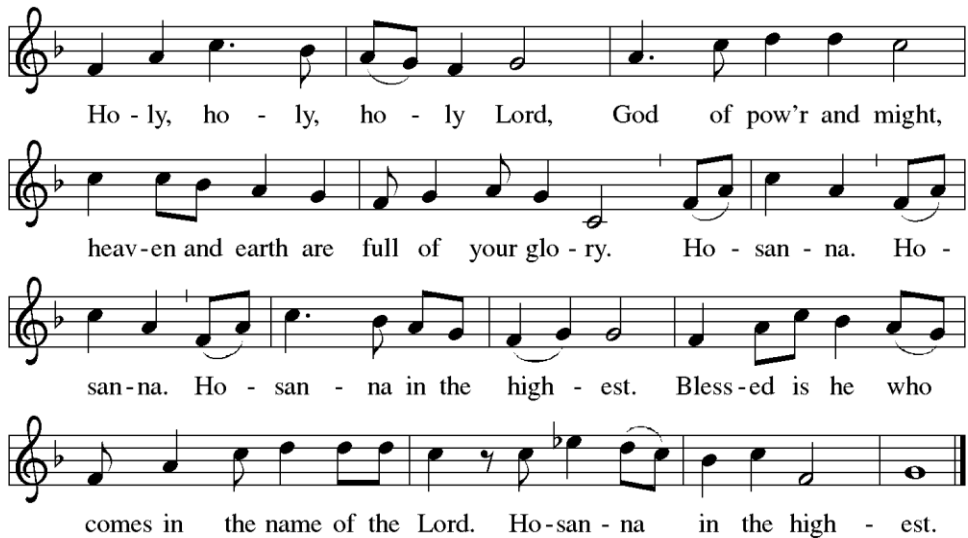
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

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'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

### **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**


Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen, amen, amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

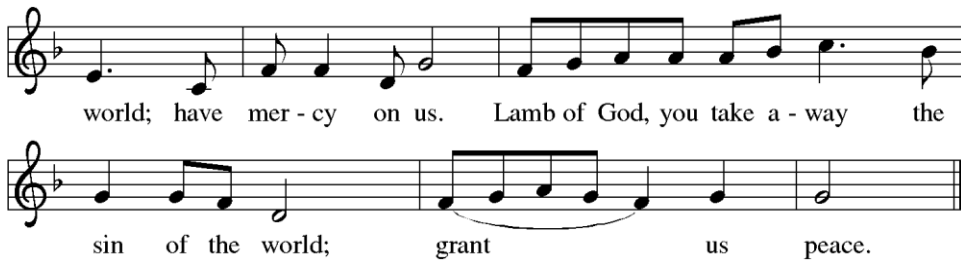
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are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

### LAMB OF GOD



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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



## 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 737

*He Comes to Us as One Unknown*

COMMUNION HYMN 296

*What Child Is This*

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE \*

Love has come and never will leave us!  
 Love is life everlasting and free.  
 Love is Jesus within and among us.  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
 Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;  
 Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER \*

Let us pray. Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

## BENEDICTION \*

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, + bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN 253 \*

*He Came Down*

## DISMISSAL \*

Glory to God in the highest! **And peace to God's people on earth!**  
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace. **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

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## TODAY'S MINISTRY LEADERS

Preaching & Presiding Minister	The Rev. Tony Auer
Assisting Minister	Marc Foulks
Organist/Pianist	David Chamberlin
Reader	Chet Johnson
Communion Assistants	Sabrina Bell / Susan Auer
Altar Guild	Holly Graham / Steve & Marie Newton
Ushers	Doug Graham
Counters	Doug Graham / David Rowatt
Fellowship Hosts	Bill & Julie Mackie Chet & Marilyn Johnson

Congregation Council: President – Joe Darnell; Vice President – Ross Anthony; Treasurer - Dennis Gross; Secretary - Liz Prystas; Sabrina Bell, David Buff, Jon Hall, Steve Newton, Cynthia Rowatt, Gavin Tonkyro



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.

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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Friday – offices closed

The Rev. Tony Auer, Interim Pastor	<a href="mailto:prt@zelc.org">prt@zelc.org</a>
David Chamberlin, Organist	<a href="mailto:david@chamberlinmusic.com">david@chamberlinmusic.com</a>
Dave Zabriskie, Chancel Choir Director	<a href="mailto:davecomposer@gmail.com">davecomposer@gmail.com</a>
Susan Swidnicki, Children’s Choir Director	<a href="mailto:sljswidnicki@gmail.com">sljswidnicki@gmail.com</a>
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## UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Poinsettias** – If you sponsored a poinsettia this Christmas season, please take them home after worship today.

**Christmas tree** – After worship, please grab a cup of coffee and return to the sanctuary to put all the Christmas decorations away. Many hands make light work!

**Youth Group Activity – Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**, after worship, let’s strap on ice skates and hit the skating rink. Location TBD. Questions, please reach out to Sabrina Bell (801) 661-5417 or at [sabrinambell05@gmail.com](mailto:sabrinambell05@gmail.com). More info to come.

**2nd annual UT Conference Women's Christmas Retreat, *Wise Women Also Came***, on Saturday, January 10, 2026 from 10 AM - 1 PM at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Murray, UT, hosted Pr. DanaLee Simon. Come for brunch, laughter, connective conversations and spiritual exploration. Register deadline is **TODAY**. E-mail Pr. DanaLee at [sagehillwisdom@gmail.com](mailto:sagehillwisdom@gmail.com) to attend or with questions. Cost is \$30 and will be collected on the day of the retreat. Scholarships are always available.

**Dinner Church** – Please join us for Zion's first service of the New Year! Dinner Church offers the opportunity to experience worship and fellowship in a less formal setting. As in the days of Christ's early disciples, we share a simple meal and warm fellowship around a common table, along with music, prayer, Scripture reading, lively discussion, and Holy Communion. We will meet on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 6:00 pm, in the Terrace room. All are welcome!!

**Caring Connections Prayer Circle Requests** - Are you, or someone you care about, in need of prayer? Please send your prayer requests to Holly Graham (40Grambo@msn.com). Holly will forward them to the dedicated members of our developing prayer circle. *May our prayers rise up like incense before God!*

**Bi-Monthly Mission January / February - Volunteer of America, Utah Youth Resource Center.** Volunteers of America (VOA) is a nationwide ministry of service, carried out by both professional employees and volunteers, all dedicated to helping the most vulnerable members of society. VOA Utah delivers compassionate care to over 8,000 individuals annually through programs addressing homelessness, substance abuse, mental illness, and domestic violence. VOA Utah's Youth Resource Center in SLC offers comprehensive resources and emergency shelter for youth ages 15-22 who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. The Center is open and professionally staffed 24/7, 365 days per year, providing emergency shelter, hot meals, clothing, case management, and legal services. To learn more about VOA, Utah, visit [voautah.org](http://voautah.org). You may contribute to this remarkable ministry through Zion's online gifting portal ("bimonthly mission") or by noting "VOA, Utah" on your check or envelope. We will collect Noisy Offerings for the VOA Youth Resource Center on January 25 and February 22 during Sunday worship. Thank you!

**Adult Sunday School meets at 9:00am in the Lounge**—come ready for good conversation and learning together, facilitated by Alyce Gross!

**Chancel Choir rehearses each Sunday at 8:45am in the Choir Room downstairs**—new voices are always welcome. 🎵

## **Sunday School Schedule (Sept. 14 - May 17):**

### **PreK - K** (Rm 7, Upstairs West Hall)

9:00 - 9:15am: Bible class

9:15 - 9:30am: Cherub Choir

9:30 - 9:50am: Activity and snack

### **1st - 3rd & 4th - 5th** (Terrace Room)

9:00 - 9:30am: Bible class

9:30 - 9:50am: Youth Choir

### **Confirmation** (Library) & **Youth Group** (youth director's office)

8:45 - 9:15am: Joyful NOIZ

9:15 - 9:50am: Bible class

\*\*Got little ones not quite ready for Sunday School? The nursery will be open (unstaffed) for you to use during the Sunday School hour. Parents and kiddos are also invited to head downstairs for coffee and fellowship in the kitchen.

**Crossroads Urban Center** – Share donations of food/small household items. The drop off bin is directly under the stairway leading to the balcony. Current needs: canned fruits & vegetables.

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

**View PDF of this Bulletin** – If you prefer to use your device to view the bulletin, scan this



QR code (also on the table in the Narthex).

**Attendance Dec 28, 2025** Worship: 79; Online views: 108; Sunday school: n/a

**Looking Ahead** – Readings and Psalm for next Sunday: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17