

## ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

# IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

# First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

**WELCOME TO ZION**. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

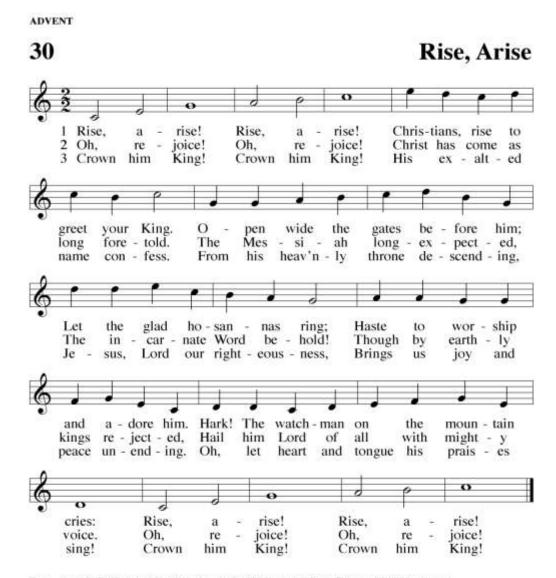
**WORSHIP FOCUS:** With Advent the Church enters a new year of grace. The First Sunday of Advent emphasizes readiness for the coming of Christ at the end of time. Such readiness consists of hope-filled watchfulness, repentance, and renewal.

# **LITURGY: Service of Morning Praise**

CW pg. 45

**OPENING HYMN:** CW 30

"Rise, Arise"



Text: Anna B. D. Hoppe, 1889–1941, abr., alt. © 1928 Augustana Book Concern. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

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Tune: FAHRE FORT (67 87 89 6) Johann E. Schmidt, 1670–1745, alt.

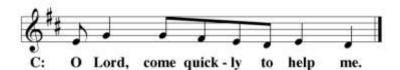




C: And my mouth shall de-clare your praise.



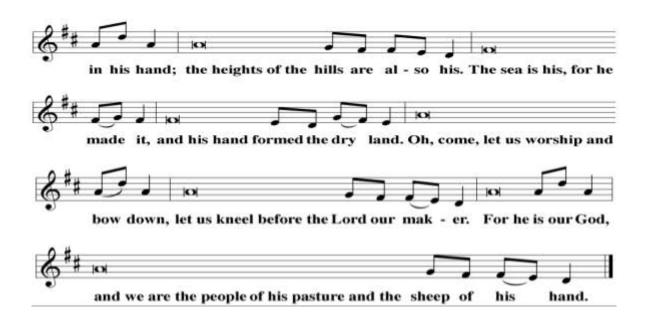
M: Has-ten to save me, O God.





BE SEATED





## LIGHTING OF 1ST CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN: CW 23 (v. 1) "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"



Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: VENI, ÉMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

#### THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 2:1-5

2 This is the message that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> This will take place in the latter days: The mountain of the LORD's house will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it like a river. <sup>3</sup> Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. Then he will instruct us about his ways, and we will walk in his paths." For from Zion the law will go out, and the LORD's word will go out from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> He will judge between the nations, and he will mediate for many peoples. Then they will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into blades for trimming vines. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore. <sup>5</sup> O house of Jacob, come, and let us walk in the light of the LORD. (EHV)

PSALM 18 CW pg.69





The LORD is my rock, my fortress and by de<u>liverer</u>;\* my God is my rock, in whom I take <u>refuge</u>.

He reached down from on high and took <u>hold</u> of me;\*
he rescued me from my powerful enemy.

He brought me out into a <u>spa</u>cious place;\* he rescued me because he delight<u>ed</u> in me.

## Refrain

You, O LORD, keep my lamp <u>burning</u>;\* my God turns my darkness <u>into light</u>.

You save the <u>hum</u>ble\* but bring low those whose eyes are <u>haughty</u>.

You give me your shield of <u>victory</u>,\* and your right hand sus<u>tains</u> me.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son\* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,\* is now, and will be forever. Amen.

#### Refrain

Second Lesson Romans 13:11-14

<sup>11</sup> And do this since you understand the present time. It is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is almost over, and the day is drawing near. So let us put away the deeds of darkness and put on the weapons of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us walk decently as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual sin and wild living, not in strife and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not give any thought to satisfying the desires of your sinful flesh. (EHV)

HYMN: CW 2 (vs. 1-5) "Savior of the Nations, Come"



Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt. Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) Geystiliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524.

**VERSE OF THE DAY:** Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia. (Revelation 22:20)

# **Sermon Text and Theme:**

Matthew 24:37-44

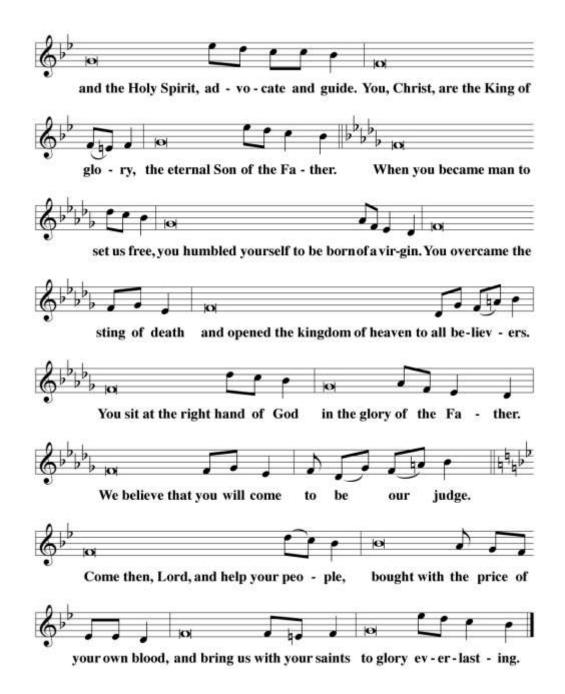
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Just as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be when the Son of Man returns. <sup>38</sup> In fact, in the days before the flood people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the very day that Noah entered the ark. <sup>39</sup> And they did not realize what was coming until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man returns.

<sup>40</sup>"At that time two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> So be alert, because you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: If the master of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> You also need to be ready for this reason: The Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect him. (EHV)

# **ARE YOU READY?**

## WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD





# **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: CW 123

- P: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.
- C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.
- P: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.
- C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

- P: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.
- C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.
- P: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.
- C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

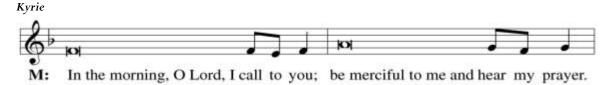
C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

# Prayer of the Day

P: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# LORD, HAVE MERCY



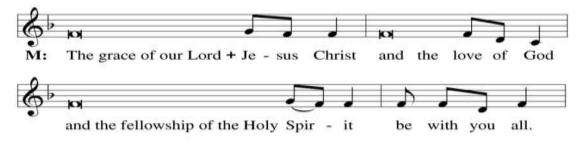


# LORD'S PRAYER

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.



# **BLESSING**





CHRISTMAS



Text: Christian Keimann, 1607–62; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: FREUET EUCH, IHR CHRISTEN ALLE (877 877 with Refrain) Andeas Hammerschmidt, c. 1611–75, alt.

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Officiants
Accompanist: Kayla Liechty
Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Ross Ulrich

#### ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Ross Ulrich: 734-240-3888; <a href="mailto:rwulrich@zionmonroe.org">rwulrich@zionmonroe.org</a>
Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; <a href="mailto:gsitzman@zionmonroe.org">gsitzman@zionmonroe.org</a>
Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; <a href="mailto:bschneck@zionmonroe.org">bschneck@zionmonroe.org</a>

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS — We will again be decorating the church for Christmas with poinsettia plants "in memory of" or "for blessings received" from members and friends of our congregation. Your response has been overwhelming in the past. This year's suggested donation is \$11.00 per plant. There are envelopes in the west foyer for your donations. Please complete the outside of the envelope and place it, along with your donation inside, in the church/school office. **Deadline to order is Sunday, November 27th.** A list of memorials/blessings will be in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins. Please call the office @ 242-1378 if you have any questions.

**ADVENT TEA HOSTESSES NEEDED** —Plans are in the works for a Advent Tea on **Monday, November 28th** @ **6:00 p.m.** Hostesses are needed. There is not much work involved and is a wonderful fellowship opportunity. Please contact Ruth Peters @ (734) 242-4961 if you would like to attend or host a table. Men please contact Ken Vagt @ (734) 915-1873 if you would like to volunteer to help in the kitchen.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE: This year Zion is once again supporting Paula's House. There is a great need this year with more women and families there than in the past. The giving tree is in the school hallway with tags. Please have all the presents wrapped and returned by **Monday, December 12th**. This is a great opportunity to show our love and support to those who are struggling. Thank you for helping with this outreach project.

# FIRST ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICE — This is My Son

Each mid-week Advent Service we will be exploring the Son. Here is a little information on the first week. Just as God's people of old waited with faith in the coming Messiah, so is our Advent anticipation of Christmas, as we sing of the Savior, "Your people long to greet You, My hope, my heart's delight!" (LSB 334:1). Our hopes and fears are real. They can distract us from God's promises. God's promise was from the beginning spoken to Adam and Eve. Salvation would come through the woman's offspring (Genesis 3:15). But it would not be Cain, the son of Adam, nor Ishmael, the son of Abraham, nor Absalom, the son of David. The true Son of Adam and Abraham and David is the Son of God. Our attention and faith thus direct our hopes and fears to God's Son, in whom we receive adoption as sons and daughters in the family of God.

**DECORATING THE CHURCH:** We are planning on decorating the church for the celebration of Christmas on **Saturday, Dec. 3rd from 9:00 a.m.-noon.** The more hands available the quicker the work will get done. Everyone is welcome to come and help. Thank you in advance for using your talents to help beautify out sanctuary and church for this blessed season. There is a sign-up sheet in the west foyer.

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS: Saturday, Dec. 3rd 1-4:00 p.m. Christian fellowship and fun! Drop your kids off for an afternoon of Christmas-themed fun - similar to a day of Vacation Bible school - while you head out to get some Christmas shopping completed!

**ADULT CHOIR:** We have an adult choir that has started practicing. They meet on Sundays after Bible Study. If you are not able to meet at that time please contact Bryan Schneck about meeting at another time. His phone number is 907-331-7761.

THE BOARD OF SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP is planning to hold a marriage retreat in March 17-19, 2023. WELS Pastor Randy Hunter will lead the discussions. We would start on Friday evening and run through Sunday at noon. A worship service will be conducted on Sunday morning. We need to get an approximate number of persons who would attend. If you sign up, it does not mean you are locked into attending. We are trying to make the best arrangements for rooms and meeting rooms. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Vagt.

# COMING UP AT ZION ....

Sunday 9:00 a.m. 1st Sunday Advent Worship Service

10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group and Adult Bible Class

**No Choir Practice** 

Monday 6:00 p.m. Advent Tea

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class

3:00 p.m. CEA Meeting

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. 1st Midweek Advent Worship Service

Saturday 9:00 a.m. Decorate the Church

1:00 p.m. Christmas for Kids

Next Sunday 9:00 a.m. 2nd Sunday Advent Worship Service

10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group and Adult Bible Class

11:15 a.m. Choir Practice

# **Our Fruits of Faith**

At worship last week: 33+118 = 151;

Offerings for week ending 11/19/22: General - \$5,143.25

Missions - \$430.00

#### **NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS**

	Nov. 2 & 6	Nov. 9 & 13	Nov. 16 & 20	Nov. 24	Nov. 27	Nov. 30 & Dec. 4
ALTAR GUILD			Liz Seibert			
LIVE STREAM HELPERS	Zach McCormick	Steve Sordahl	Miller Sordahl		Rob Krueger	Zach McCormick
USHERS	Nov.2 & 6 Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Jake Burke Juergan Koenig Matt McCormick	Nov. 9  Nov. 13  Russ Vitale  Keith McBee  Mark Kipf	Nov. 16 & 20 Rob Krueger Ray Chandonnet Ralph Naveaux Erich Freiny	Nov. 24 Tony Affholter Mark Fuerstenberg Tim Fuerstenberg	Nov. 27 Joe Koch Joe Schmeling Dave Benge	Nov. 30 & Dec. 4 Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson Alan Bober
COMMUNION HELPERS	<u>Nov. 2</u> Jeff Grubb		<u>Nov. 16</u> Erich Freiny			<u>Nov. 30</u> Ben Husby
	<u>Nov. 6</u> Jeremy Robinson		<u>Nov. 20</u> Alan Bober			<u>Dec. 4</u> Mark Kipf

# Would you like to help "feed some lambs"?

Our congregation is accepting donations to Zion's two "Zion School Tuition Assistance" funds. These funds are set up to specifically assist families in need within the congregation and the community with tuition assistance scholarships for their child attending Zion Lutheran



School. With recent events, there is a particular need due to the financial challenges facing several of our families this year.

There are two funds, one designated to help any family in our community wishing to attend Zion Lutheran School, and one designated for Zion congregation member families.

We have already used most of the funds available to us for member families for the new school year, and our general fund (open to all school families) already does not meet our needs for the next school year.

If you are interested in making a donation to either of these funds, please make checks payable to "Zion Lutheran Church". Please write in the check memo line which fund you wish the donation to go to:

"ZLS Tuition Assistance – General" or

"ZLS Tuition Assistance - Zion Member".

Donations not designated to a specific fund will be applied to the funds as needed at the discretion of the school board and church council.

Thank you for helping Zion Lutheran School to do all we can to answer Christ's call to "feed his lambs and sheep".