

WORSHIP NOTES

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

One of the very finest hymns ever written is "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star," Pastor Philip Nicolai's masterpiece. Sadly, most hymnals do not provide a complete translation of this 16th century German hymn. The version we base today's service upon provides all seven stanzas. These additional stanzas bring to light the clear references to the Lord's Supper and the Means of Grace.

Philip Nicolai graduated in 1594 from the University of Wittenberg with a Doctorate Degree in Theology. He served as a Lutheran pastor in congregations in Germany. But, he is most remembered as a hymn writer. He was the author of two famous hymns: "Awake, Awake, the Night is Flying" and "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star." These are sometimes referred to as the King and Queen of Chorales, respectively. These two chorales have inspired many composers, including Johann Sebastian Bach, who based two of his chorale cantatas on Nicolai's hymns.

The tune for "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star" is such a masterpiece that this is written about it: "So popular did it soon become, that its tune was often chimed by city chimes, lines and verses from it were printed by way of ornament on the common earthenware of the country, and it was invariably used at weddings and certain festivals."

The hymn originally was in seven ten-line stanzas and bore the title "A spiritual bridal song of the believing soul concerning Jesus Christ, her heavenly bridegroom, founded on the 45th Psalm of the prophet David." Jesus says in Revelation 22:16 that He is the fulfillment of this heavenly bridegroom and the morning star: "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."

Communion

In today's service, we will be celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion. This meal is also known as the Lord's Supper because Jesus' body and blood are really present and have a common-union with the bread and wine, and it is a gift from God to you for the forgiveness of your sins. Everyone who eats and drinks this is also united to God and each other. This is truly a wonderful thing! Yet God tells us that this meal (like a doctor's prescription) is not for everyone: If taken incorrectly or in an "unworthy manner" (1 Corinthians 11:27) it can actually do harm! God wants those who participate to have a thorough understanding of what communion is.

Therefore, in Christian love, at Zion Lutheran Church we ask that only members and those individuals who have shared with the pastor their intention of receiving the Lord's Supper today come forward when the sacrament is distributed. Thank you for respecting our beliefs.

Since God wants Christians to "examine themselves" (1 Cor. 11:28) before receiving this Sacrament, a guide for personal preparation can be found on page 156 in your pew hymnals.

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Epiphany of Our Lord

January 3 & 7, 2023

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: The word *epiphany* means "a showing" or "a revealing." Today we see Jesus revealed as Savior of the world.

This is the First Sunday in the season of Epiphany. The readings during the Epiphany season carry forward the emphasis in the readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the theme of Jesus revealing himself to us as God and Savior. In Christmas and Epiphany our attention is on getting to know Jesus, who he is and how he works; thus there is not so much emphasis on our response beyond the response of faith, which itself is always seen as his work and not ours.

LITURGY: Common Service

CW pg. 15

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

BATHROOMS are located in the back of church, just down the hall toward the school. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

VISITORS are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

For most of you, putting on perfume, cologne, or aftershave before coming to church is just routine. But for a growing number of us in the congregation, those smells will lead to nausea, headaches, shortness of breath, and migraines. We are asking if you could please re-evaluate your use of fragrances before you come to church, especially during the winter months when the enclosed heated space will magnify the effects of the fragrances. If you could wait until you get home from church to spritz on the smells, it would be greatly appreciated!

OPENING HYMN: *CW 79* – "How Lovely Shines the Morning Star"

- 1. How lovely shines the Morning Star! The nations see and hail afar The light in Judah shining. Thou David's Son of Jacob's race, My Bridegroom and my King of Grace, For Thee my heart is pining. Lowly, Holy, Great and glorious, Thou victorious Prince of graces, Filling all the heavenly places.
- 2. O highest joy by mortals won, True Son of God and Mary's Son,
 Thou high-born King of ages! Thou art my heart's most beauteous flower,
 And Thy blest Gospel's saving power
 My raptured soul engages. Thou mine, I Thine;
 Sing hosanna! Heavenly manna Tasting, eating,
 Whilst Thy love in songs repeating.

Minister: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

Congregation: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father-- to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. (Rev 1:4-6)

M: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; (Is 9:2)

C: on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

M: See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples,

C: but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. (Is 60:2)

3. Now richly to my waiting heart, O Thou, my God, deign to impart The grace of love undying. In Thy blest body let me be, E'en as the branch is in the tree, Thy life my life supplying. Sighing, Crying. For the savor of Thy favour; Resting never, Till I rest in Thee forever.

M: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given. (Is 9:6)

C: In him was life, and the life was the light of man. (Jn 1:4)

M: God of Glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light to the world, to reveal your love for all people. But wherever there is light, there will also be darkness.

C: We confess that we are sinful creatures who, either through foolishness or willful disobedience, often choose to dwell in the darkness instead of live in your light. We beg for forgiveness for starving ourselves of your Son's life-giving light. We repent of our entrenched evil that hates the light and tries to dispose of it. We admit our apathy towards sanctification and renewal that cause us to continue to live in the night. Trusting your grace, we earnestly pray: "Create in us a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within us." Through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen. (Ps 51:10)

4. A pledge of peace from God I see When Thy pure eyes are turned to me To show me Thy good pleasure. Jesus, Thy Spirit and Thy Word, Thy body and Thy blood, afford My soul its dearest treasure. Keep me kindly In Thy favour, o my Saviour! Thou wilt cheer me; Thy Word calls me to draw near Thee.

M: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. (Is 60:1) The Light comes not to sear and blind us but to save us. Christ Jesus came into this world as an infant in a Bethlehem manger so that he might die as our Savior on a Roman cross in Jerusalem. For his sake, God forgives us all our sins. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

M: If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, C: and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. (1 Jn 1:7)

M: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not understood it.

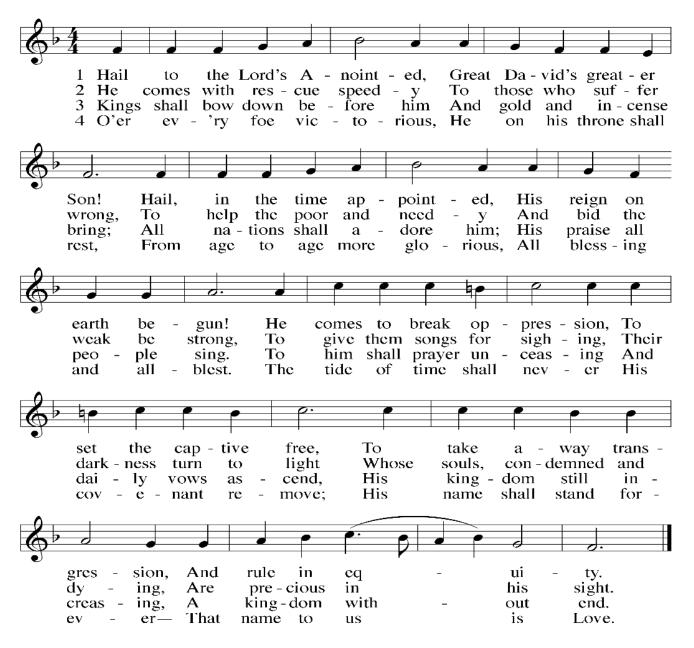
C: We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (Jn 1:5,14)

Be seated

HYMN: CW 93 – "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

93

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, abr., alt.

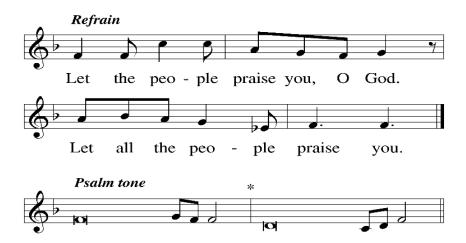
Tune: Freut Euch, ihr Lieben Christen (76 76 D) Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532-c. 1601.

First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

60 Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD is dawning upon you. ² Look, darkness covers the earth, and deep darkness covers the peoples, but the LORD will dawn upon you, and his glory will be seen over you. ³ Nations will walk to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ Look up. Look all around and see! All of them have been gathered. They are coming to you. Your sons will come from far away, and people will carry your daughters on their side. ⁵ Then you will look and be radiant. Your heart will race with excitement and burst with joy. For great riches from the sea will be delivered to you. The wealth of the nations will come to you. ⁶ Caravans of camels will cover your land, young camels from Midian and Ephah. All those from Sheba will come. They will carry gold and incense, and they will announce the good news of the praise of the LORD. (EHV)

Psalm of the Day: CW 72

p. 93



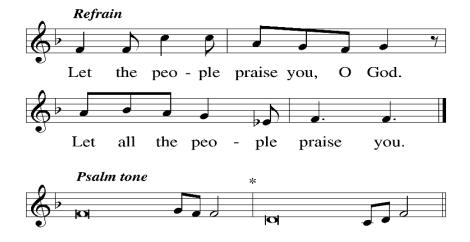
Endow the King with your justice, O God,* the royal Son with your righteousness.

He will defend the afflicted among the <u>people*</u> and save the children of the needy.

He will endure as long <u>as</u> the sun,* as long as the moon, through all gener<u>a</u>tions.

He will be like rain falling on a <u>mown</u> field,* like showers water<u>ing</u> the earth.

Refrain



All kings will bow <u>down</u> to him,* and all nations will <u>serve</u> him.

All nations will be <u>blessed</u> through him,* and they will <u>call</u> him blessed.

Praise be to the LORD God, who alone does mar<u>vel</u>ous deeds.* May the whole earth be filled with his <u>glory</u>.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>inning</u>,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Dale Wood. From *Seasonal Psalms*. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:2-12

² Surely you have heard of the administration of God's grace given to me for you, ³ namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation (as I have already written briefly). ⁴ When you read this, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ. ⁵ This mystery was not made known to people in past generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and people who also share in the promise through the gospel. ⁷ I became a servant of this gospel, in keeping with the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me—even though I am the very least of all the saints—was given this grace: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ ⁹ and to enlighten everyone about the administration of this mystery. In past ages this mystery remained hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ He did this so that, through the church, the multifaceted wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in

the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was done according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him we can freely approach God with confidence through faith in him. (EHV)

Verse of the Day:

Alleluia. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. Alleluia. (Matthew 2:2b)

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, ² "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ He gathered together all the people's chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet: ⁶ You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel." ⁷ Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him." ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose^[c] went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. ¹¹ After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

C: We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- 5. Thou, mighty Father, in Thy Son Didst love me ere Thou hadst begun This ancient world's foundation. Thy Son hath made a friend of me, And when in spirit Him I see, I joy in tribulation. What bliss is this! He that liveth to me giveth Life forever; Nothing me from Him can sever.
- 6. Lift up the voice and strike the string. Let all glad sounds of music ring In God's high praises blended. Christ will be with me all the way, Today, tomorrow, every day, Till traveling days be ended. Sing out, ring out Triumph glorious, o victorious, Chosen nation; Praise the God of your salvation.

SERMON THEME based on Matthew 2:1-12

We Have Come to Worship Jesus

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS (Sun. only)

OFFERING: The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen.

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.

THE SACRAMENT

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

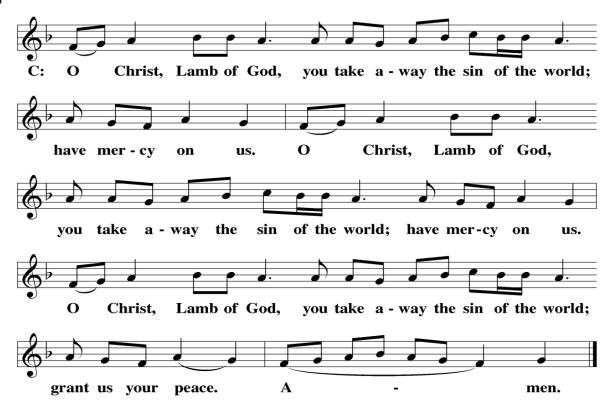
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

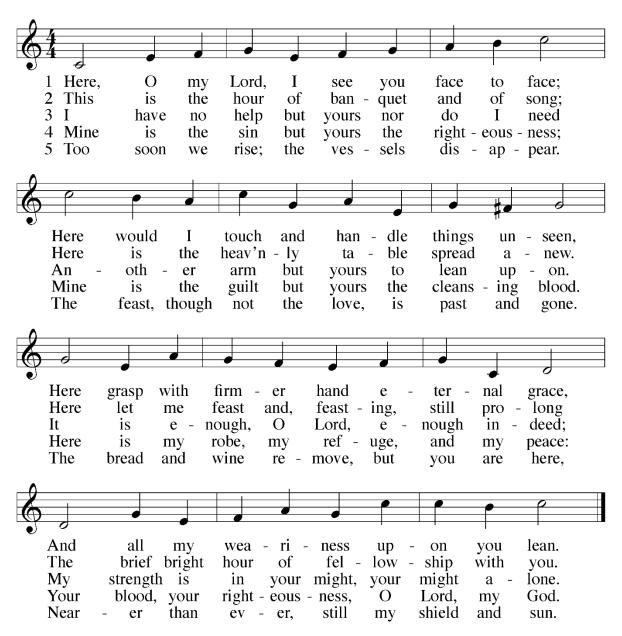


BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: CW 315 - "Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face" CW 279 - "O Word of God Incarnate"

315 Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face



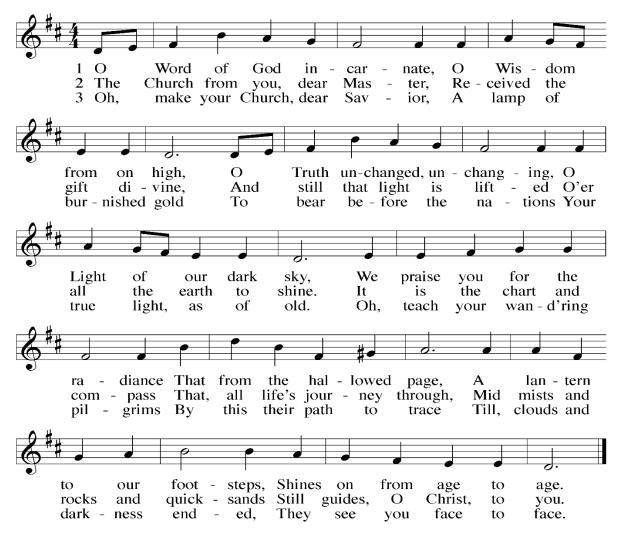
6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above, Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, abr., alt.

Tune: FARLEY CASTLE (10 10 10 10) Henry Lawes, 1595–1662.

279

O Word of God Incarnate



Text: William W. How, 1823-97, adapt., alt.

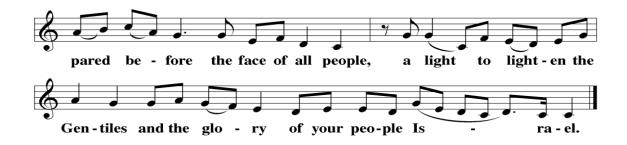
Tune: MUNICH (76 76 D) Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.

THANKSGIVING

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis





Prayer

M: O God, you sent your Son to be the Light of salvation for the entire world. Lift up our eyes to your Light and guide us, like the star in the West, that we may behold the mysteries of Christ revealed through your Word and holy Sacraments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: May God, who led the Magi by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you to your Lord. May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out his Spirit on you who have life from these baptismal waters. May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. And the blessing of God Almighty – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C: Amen.

7. Oh, joy to know that Thou, my Friend, Art Lord, Beginning without end, The First and Last, Eternal! And Thou at length, O glorious grace! Wilt take me to that holy place, The home of joys supernal. Amen, Amen! Come and meet me! Quickly greet me! With deep yearning Lord, I look for Thy returning.

Officiants

Accompanist: Dottie Bober Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman

^{*}ALL CHURCH SERVICE AND MUSIC ITEMS ARE PRINTED UNDER ONE LICENSE — A-717618.

2023 Christmas Poinsettias

In Memory of ...

In memory of our parents, Russell & Madeline Vitale, and Roland & Frances Hoenecke from Russ and Mona Vitale

In memory of loved ones from Jim and Kathy Vanisacker

In memory of loved ones from Ken and Gail Heusman

In memory of David C. Holsen and Arvin Schneck from Bryan and Deanna Schneck

In memory of Kenneth and Margaret Pitcher from Carol Pitcher

In memory of loved ones from Bari and Wendy Waltz

In memory of Hazel (Birdie) Duby from Mark and Paula Kipf

In memory of Gary Nied from Beth and family

In memory of Dannie Younglove and all family members gone from Lee A. Younglove

In memory of Larry Miller and Tim Miller from Annette Miller and family

In memory of our parents: Frank & Evelyn Tomczak and Roger & Della Premo from Frank and Kris Tomczak

In memory of Nora & Henry Kiiffner and Anne & Andy Bober from Alan and Dottie Bober

In memory of Bob McLaughlin from Nancy McLaughlin

In memory of Lloyd & Audrey Miller and Elijah Gedelian from Jim and Denise Miller

In memory of Rita Raasch from Howard Raasch and Juergen and Lorrie Koening

In memory of loved ones from Carol Eshelman and family

In memory of parents Leonard and Leona Selvidge and brother Robert Selvidge from Linda C. Selvidge

In memory of our parents from Ray and Melanie Palmatier

In memory of Ernest & Margaret Howerton and Urban & MaryJane Trowbridge from Robert and Joyce Trowbridge

In memory of Peggy Lanagan from Barbra Krueger

In memory of Lyle Kull, Kevin Kull, Kristie Fultz, and Billie Duvall from Maxine Kull

For Blessings Received . . .

Beth and Bryce Mueller

Ray and Brenda Chandonnet

Marv and Jean Baumann

Larry and Deb Sachs

The blessing of our 3 grandchildren & the coming of 2 more in mid 2024 from Mark and Sherry Fuerstenberg

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org
Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

VOTER'S MEETING— A new call meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 28th at 12:30 p.m. after the voter's meeting.

OFFERING PLATE: The Elders and Council have decided that as of Sunday, January 7th we are going to return to passing the offering plate.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: A special event is coming in January. Friends In Faith is sponsoring a "baby shower" for our Pregnancy Care Center that is located in Redford, Michigan. Our "baby shower" will be **Sunday, January 14th** in the gymnasium. There is a wish list from the Pregnancy Care Center and sign-up sheet to attend the shower in the west foyer.

Ushers Needed:

Dear Members of Zion,

Zion is currently in need of ushers to be added to existing ushering teams. To be an usher you simply need to be a confirmed member of Zion. Ushers typically arrive 20 - 30 minutes prior to service, make sure the hymn boards are updated, candles are lit, etc. There is a list of "ushering duties" so don't worry about having to remember it all. We are simply looking for any confirmed member, male or female, willing to serve on an Ushering team. It's a great way to meet more of your Zion family and help our worship services run smoothly.

Willing and interested? Awesome! Please reach out to Rob Krueger, Stewardship chairman at 734-770-1149 or talk with Mark Kipf, Elders chairman at church.

Thank you for considering using your gift of Time! Board of Stewardship

TUITION FUNDS FOR ZION SCHOOL – There have been many questions recently regarding the Tuition Funds at Zion School. There are two separate funds:

- 1) "Zion Members Tuition Fund" This is for members of Zion who send their children to Zion school but need assistance with their tuition.
- 2) "General Tuition Fund" This is for students who attend Zion but are not members at Zion. This is to help them with the cost of attending school at Zion,

Individuals who are seeking assistance do have to apply for the help and provide information regarding why they have a need for assistance. If you would like to give to either of the funds at any time just indicate which fund on your church envelope. Thank you in advance for considering these funds.

Coming up at Zion

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (IC/CC)

10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class

1:30 p.m. Worship Service (IC)

5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth Group, and Adult Bible Class

January Volunteers

	Dec. 31	Jan. 3 & 7	Jan. 10 & 14	Jan. 17 & 21	Jan. 24 & 28	Jan. 31 & Feb. 4
Altar Guild			Kathy	Vanisacker		
Live Stream Helpers	Rob Krueger	Ryan Roth	Steve Sordahl	Miller Sordahl	William Robinson	Rob Krueger
Ushers	<u>Dec. 31</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier	Jan. 3 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier Jan. 7 Dave Benge Alan Bober Mathewt Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	Jan. 10 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson Jan. 14 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick Zach Turner	Jan. 17 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick Zach Turner Jan. 21 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale	Jan. 24 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale Jan. 28 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger	Jan. 31 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Feb. 4 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier
Communion Helpers		<u>Jan. 3</u> Mark Kipf		Jan. 17 Ken Vagt		Jan. 31 Ken Vagt
		<u>Jan. 7</u> Erich Freiny Steve Sordahl		Jan. 21 Jeremy Robinson Rob Krueger		<u>Feb. 4</u> Mark Kipf Jake Burke

