



# HIS GOSPEL IS PEACE

1517.

**ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI**

*(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)*

**IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**December 22, 2024**

**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.

*This is the Fourth Sunday in the season Advent. In Advent the Word of God bids us prepare for the coming of Christ. The readings for Advent have this urgency to them: Since he is surely coming again in judgment, we desperately need for him to come to us first in grace. For without that coming in grace we will perish at his coming in judgment. The blue paraments are used to remind us that Jesus will come again in the sky; therefore repent & prepare, as John the Baptist reminds us.*

**Worship Focus:** The Lord is coming. Forgiveness and peace are ours.

**LITURGY: Service of Morning Praise**

*CW pg. 45*

**BATHROOMS** are open. They 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!

**PLEASE STAND**

**INVOCATION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**CONFESSION OF SINS AND ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

P: When God created the world, he made the crown of his creation—the human race—in his image. Perfect people lived in a perfect world in a perfect relationship with God.

C: **But mankind rebelled against God, bringing sin into the world and death to all. God declared the wages of sin to be death. We too are guilty, and we confess our sinful thoughts, words, and actions.**

P: However, God—who is Love—did not want to be separated from his children forever. He promised a Savior who would bear the punishment for sin, defeat the devil, and break the bonds of death.

*Genesis 1:26; Romans 6:23*

**ALL:**

O, come, O, come, Em-man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
Un-til the Son of God ap-pear. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

P: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; your sins are forgiven. In view of God’s mercy, today we light the love candle. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

C: **This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

*Galatians 4:4,5; 1 John 4:9;10*

*Advent Candle is lighted*

O, come, my Love, who gives to me Grace un - de - served, un -

**ALL:** end - ing, free. Help me to share this gift most rare

That all, God's hope and peace, may share. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!

Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

P: In the love of God we go to the world—to our friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors. We regard no one from a worldly point of view. If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

**C: God has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us; in him we have become the righteousness of God.**

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

**All:** 

Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

# THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON


Micah 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup>But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, from you, will go out the one who will be the ruler for me in Israel. His goings forth are from the beginning, from the days of eternity. <sup>3</sup>Therefore the LORD will give them up, until the time when the woman who is in labor bears a child. Then the remaining survivors from his brothers will return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup>He will stand and shepherd with the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. They will dwell securely, for at that time he will be great to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup>This one will be their peace. When Assyria invades our land and tramples on our citadels, we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight leaders of men. (EHV)

## PSALM 85

CW pg. 97

*Refrain*



I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.

*Psalm tone*

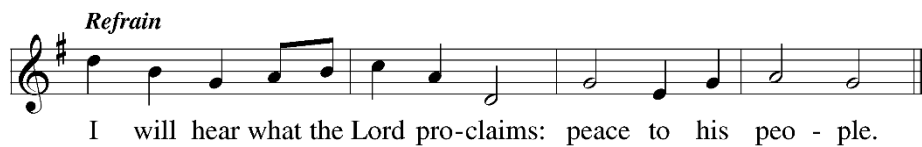


You showed favor to your land, O LORD;\*  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your people\*  
and covered all their sins.

Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,\*  
and grant us your salvation.

*Refrain*



he promises peace to his people, his saints.

Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,\*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet together;\*  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### *Refrain*

Refrain Tune: From *The Psalmody for the Day, Series C*. © 1976 Fortress Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

## Second Lesson

## Hebrews 10:5-10

<sup>5</sup> Therefore when he entered the world, Christ said: Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but you prepared a body for me. <sup>6</sup> You were not pleased with burnt offerings and sin offerings. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, "Here I am. I have come to do your will, God. In the scroll of the book it is written about me." <sup>8</sup> First he said: Sacrifices and offerings that were offered according to the law, both burnt offerings and sin offerings, you did not desire, and you were not pleased with them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said: Here I am. I have come to do your will. He does away with the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> By this will, we have been sanctified once and for all, through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ. (EHV)

### VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia. (Matthew 1:23)

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary got up and hurried to the hill country, to a town of Judah. <sup>40</sup>She entered the home of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>Just as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup>She called out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>But why am I so favored that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>In fact, just now, as soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy! <sup>45</sup>Blessed is she who believed, because the promises spoken to her from the Lord will be fulfilled!” <sup>46</sup>Then Mary said, My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>because he has looked with favor on the humble state of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed, <sup>49</sup>because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their hearts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down rulers from their thrones. He has lifted up the lowly. <sup>53</sup>He has filled the hungry with good things, but the rich he has sent away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, <sup>55</sup>as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring forever. (EHV)

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 442

“Have No Fear, Little Flock”

TRUST

442

Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear,  
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer,  
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord  
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts



lit - tle flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To  
 lit - tle flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In  
 high a - bove, For he stoops down to heal you, Up -  
 raise to God, For he stays close be - side you, In



give you the king - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
 his love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
 lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!  
 all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Marjorie A. Jillson, b. 1931. From *Five Hymns*. © 1973 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.  
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Tune: LITTLE FLOCK (66 76 6) Heinz W. Zimmermann, b. 1930. From *Five Hymns*. © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.  
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SERMON TEXT AND THEME:

Luke 12:32 Do not be afraid, little flock, because your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom.

## No Fear of Lacking Anything

### WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD

*Te Deum*



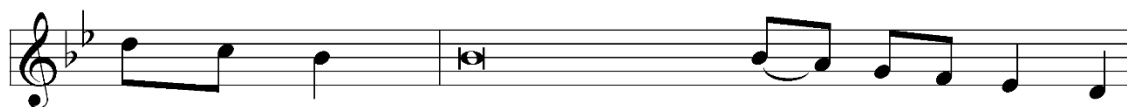
C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



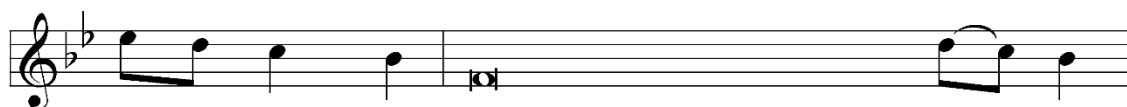
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



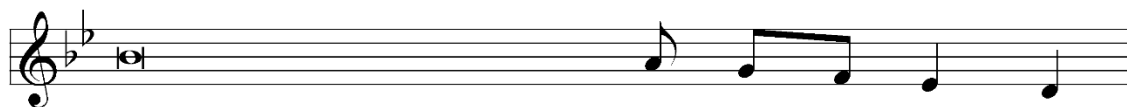
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,

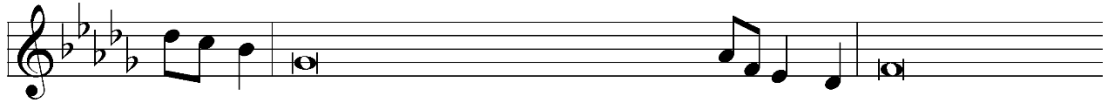




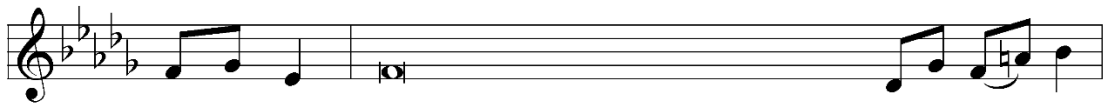
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

## 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.

## Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.



**M:** Let us praise the Lord.



**C:** Thanks be to God.

## BLESSING



**M:** The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**C:** A - men.

ADVENT

# 28 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has  
 2 What the fa - thers most de - sired, What the  
 3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's  
 4 Wel - come, O my Sav - ior, now! Joy - ful,  
 5 Crush for me the ser - pent's head That, set



tru - ly kept his word And at last to  
 proph - ets' heart in - spired, What they longed for  
 help - er, Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold  
 Lord, to you I bow. Come in - to my  
 free from doubt and dread, I may cling to



us did send Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
 man - y a year Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
 race be - hold— Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
 heart, I pray; Oh, pre - pare your - self a way.  
 you in faith, Safe - ly kept through life and death,

6 And, when you shall come again  
 As a glorious king to reign,  
 I with joy may see your face,  
 Freely ransomed by your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

Officiants  
 Accompanist: Dottie Bober  
 Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman

## 2024 Christmas Poinsettias



### In Memory of . . .

In memory of our brother Bill Vitale and sister Thekla Schneider from Russ and Mona Vitale  
In memory of loved ones from Ken and Gail Heusman  
In memory of Dave 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 Becki Brasher and Birdie Duby (Paula's mom) from Mark and Paula Kipf  
In memory of Gary Nied from Beth and family  
In memory of Dannie M. Younglove, Hazel Younglove, and Annette Younglove  
from Lee A. Younglove  
In memory of Larry Miller and Tim Miller from Annette Miller and family  
In memory of Roger & Della Premo and Frank & Evelyn Tomczak from Frank and Kris Tomczak  
In memory of Adam, Muriel, and Richard Yeager from Tom and Ruth Moran  
In memory of Rita Raasch, Jim & Norma Bechberger, and Harry and Frieda Raasch  
from Howard Raasch and Juergen and Lorrie Koenig  
In memory of parents Leonard and Leona Selvidge and Bobby Selvidge from Linda Selvidge  
In memory of Ernest & Margaret Howerton and Urban & Mary Jane Trowbridge  
from Robert and Joyce Trowbridge  
In memory of Glen Eckel from Jackie Eckel  
In memory of Lyle Kull, Kevin Kull, and Albert Kull from Maxine Kull

### For Blessings Received . . .

Alan and Dottie Bober  
Ray and Brenda Chandonnet  
Jesus from Ray and Melanie Palmatier  
Grandchildren from Larry and Deb Sachs  
Linda Selvidge Family from Linda Selvidge  
Sarah, Otto, Kirsten, Nigel and Zachariah from Jim and Kathy Vanisacker

## Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; [gsitzman@zionmonroe.org](mailto:gsitzman@zionmonroe.org)

Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; [bschneck@zionmonroe.org](mailto:bschneck@zionmonroe.org)

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**CALL UPDATE**—The Members of Zion and St. Paul extended a call to Pastor John Moll. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he deliberates his call.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Today** at 10:15 a.m. we are planning on going out to 2 nursing homes and do some Christmas caroling. There will be coffee and donuts before going out. We expect to be gone only an hour or so.

### **TWO IMPORTANT MEETINGS:**

- 1) Special Voter's Meeting-Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. to discuss the parking lot.
- 2) Preschool Director Call Meeting-Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY:** Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. there is going to be a family friendly fun night at Zion in the gymnasium to celebrate the new year. We ask everyone to bring a favorite snack, finger food or munchie to share. There will be pickleball, volleyball, cornhole, card games, board games, movies and other activities. Please come and join in on the fun.

**STEWARDSHIP GIFT OF TIME OPPORTUNITY:** Zion is in need of members who would be willing to input the attendance information into Church 360 following the service each week. Training will be provided and this is something that can be done from home. We hope that if we get five or six people to help it would have to be done once every month to month and a half. If interested, please reach out to Rob Krueger at 734-770-1149.

**CHURCH ENVELOPES OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2025** are available in the west foyer. The envelopes will be in alphabetic order. If you don't see your envelopes, please contact the office.

**2024 CONTRIBUTIONS** - The financial secretary will close the books for 2024 on December 31, 2024. To receive credit for 2024, all contributions must be received by that date.

**ALTAR GUILD FOR 2025** — There is a sign-up sheet in the west foyer for Altar Guild volunteers for 2025. We really do appreciate all the help we get through the year with this service of love. If you haven't ever done Altar Guild, please consider helping out. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

**FRIENDS IN FAITH:** In the East foyer Friends in Faith is now selling greeting cards for \$1.00 each. There are different occasion cards available. The money raised from the sales is going towards future Friends in Faith projects, such as the Kleenex box ministry project and other shut in projects they do throughout the year.

## Coming up at Zion ....

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Fourth Advent Worship Service  
 10:15 a.m. Christmas Caroling  
 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service  
 Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Christmas Worship Service  
**NO** Evening Worship Service  
 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Festival Worship Service  
 NO Sunday School or Bible Study  
 10:30 a.m. Special Voter's Meeting  
 Tuesday 6:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Celebration  
 Wednesday **NO** Evening Service  
 Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

## December Volunteers

	Nov. 28 & Dec.1	Dec. 4 & 8	Dec. 11 & 15	Dec. 18 & Dec. 22	Dec. 24, 25, & 29
Altar Guild		Linda Selvidge	& Diane Affholter		
Live Stream Helpers	Nov. 28 – Rob Krueger Dec. 1 – Ryan Roth	Steve Sordahl	Ryan Roth	Dec. 18- Steve Sordahl Dec. 22 – William Robinson	Dec. 24 – Steve Sordahl Dec. 29 – Erich Freiny
Ushers	<u>Nov. 28</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson  <u>Dec. 1</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	<u>Dec. 4</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner  <u>Dec. 8</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner	<u>Dec. 11</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick  <u>Dec. 15</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick	<u>Dec. 18</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier  <u>Dec. 22</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier	<u>Dec. 24</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling  <u>Dec. 25</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling  <u>Dec. 29</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling
Communion Helpers	<u>Dec. 1</u> Jake Burke Mark Kipf		<u>Dec. 11</u> Ken Vagt  <u>Dec. 15</u> Erich Freiny Jeff Heusman		