

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 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.

This is the first Sunday in the Advent season. 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 signify preparation for the coming of the Savior. We're preparing to celebrate when he came 2000 years ago that first Christmas, but we also are preparing for his coming at the end of this world when he comes back in the clouds of the sky. Blue is the color of the sky and of hope, the hope that we have in that glorious day.

WORSHIP FOCUS: Christ is coming soon; let us always be prepared to meet him.

The Hymn of the Day: Savior of the Nations, Come

The Hymn of the Day is a key element in the service. The practice of having a chief hymn for the day in the service has roots deep in historical, liturgical Lutheran worship tradition. Its purpose is to respond closely to the theme of the day.

In singing today's hymn, we join Christians throughout time who have been singing this hymn since the 4th Century. It highlights the wonder of God coming in flesh as a child, the Savior of all people.

Liturgy: Common Service

CW pg. 15

Harold Rohlic

Prelude Music: Variations on Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came
O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Anna Laura Page
Wilber Held

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

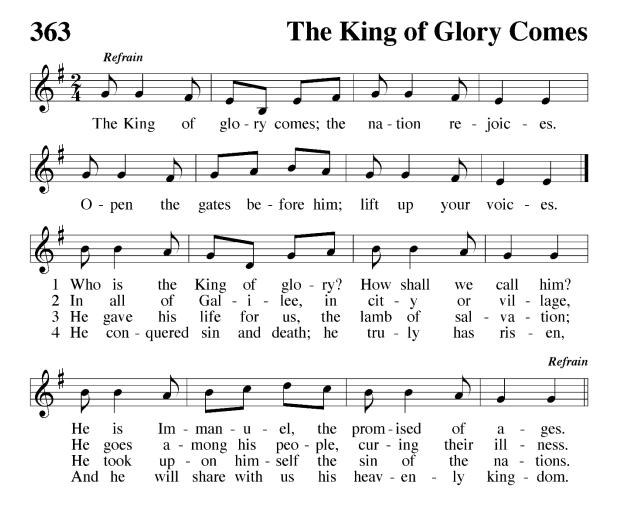
BATHROOMS are located in the back of church, just down the hall toward the school. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

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!

OPENING HYMN: CW 363

REDEEMER



Text: Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, alt. © 1966, 1985 Willard F. Jabusch (admin. OCP Publications).

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Tune: PROMISED ONE (12 12 with Refrain) Israeli melody, 20th century.

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

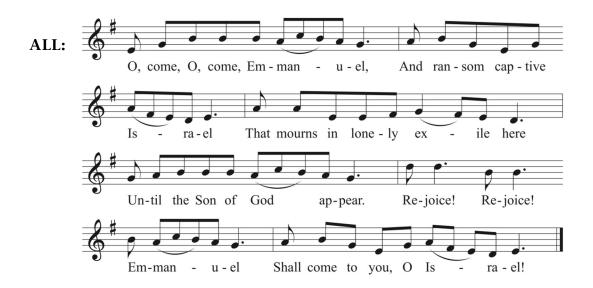
P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

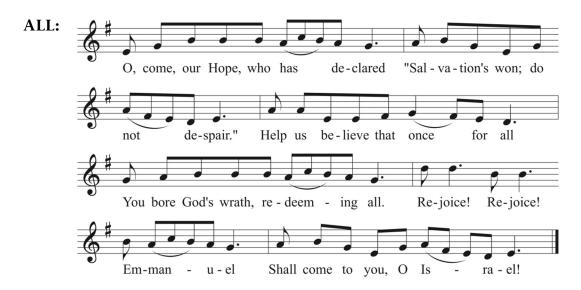
 Genesis 1:26; Romans 6:23



- 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 hope candle. The Spirit declares through the psalmist, "Put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love, and with him is full redemption."
- C: We wait for the Lord, and in his word we put our hope.

Galatians 4:4,5; Psalm 130:5,7

Advent Candle is lighted



- P: In the hope 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.



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.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 64:1-9

64 Oh, that you would rip open the heavens and come down. Mountains then would quake because of your presence. ² As fire ignites stubble and as fire makes water boil, make your name known to your adversaries. Then nations would quake in your presence. ³ You did amazing things that we did not expect. You came down. Mountains quaked because of your presence. ⁴ From ancient times no one has heard. No ear has understood. No eye has seen any god except you, who goes into action for the one who waits for him. ⁵ You meet anyone who joyfully practices righteousness, who remembers you by walking in your ways! But you were angry because we sinned. We have remained in our sins for a long time. Can we still be saved? ⁶ All of us have become like something unclean, and all our righteous acts are like a filthy cloth. All of us have withered like a leaf, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. ⁷ There is no one who calls on your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you. So you hid your face from us. You made us melt by the power of our guilt. ⁸ But now, LORD, you are our father. We are the clay, and you are our potter. All of us are the work of your hand. ⁹ Do not be angry, LORD, without limit. Do not remember our guilt forever. Please look closely. All of us are your people. (EHV)

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! ⁴I always thank my God for you because of the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ You were enriched in him in every way, in all your speaking and all your knowledge, ⁶ because the testimony about Christ was established in you. ⁷ As a result you do not lack any gift as you eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also keep you strong until the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. (EHV)

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)



STAND

GOSPEL

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



GOSPEL Mark 11:1-10

11 As they approached Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, on the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and told them, "Go into the village ahead of you. As soon as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it, and he will send it back here without delay.'" ⁴ They left and found a colt on the street, tied at a door; and they untied it. ⁵ Some who were standing there asked them, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶ The disciples answered them just as Jesus had instructed them, and the men let them go. ⁷ They brought the colt to Jesus, threw their garments on it, and Jesus sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their garments on the road. Others spread branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹ Those who went in front and those who followed were crying out, Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest! (EHV)



NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen. **HYMN OF THE DAY:** CW 2

ADVENT

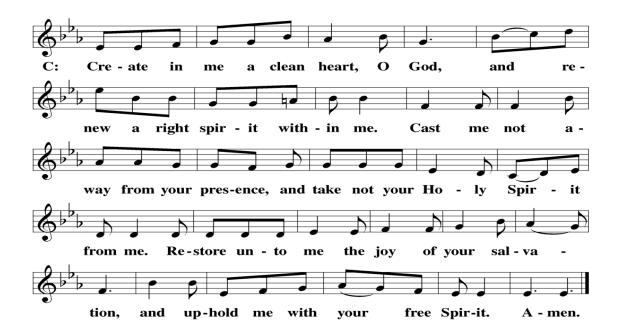


Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt. Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) Geystiliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524.

SERMON THEME

He is Coming to Save Us

CREATE IN ME



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

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."

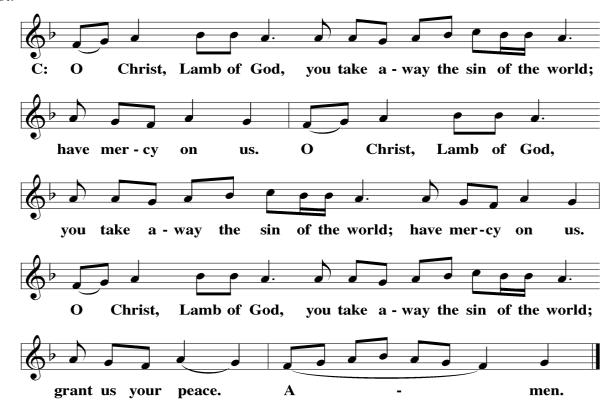
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: *CW 134 CW 32*

"O Bride of Christ, Rejoice"
"When Sinners See Their Lost Condition"

134

O Bride of Christ, Rejoice



Text: Danish hymn, c. 1600, abr., adapt.; tr. Victor O. Petersen, 1864–1929, alt. Tune: Wo soll ich fliehen hin (66 77 77) *Der Bussfertige Sünder*, Nürnberg, 1679, alt.

When Sinners See Their Lost Condition



Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80, abr.; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt. Tune: WER WEISS, WIE NAHE (98 98 88) Christian Möck, 1737–1818.

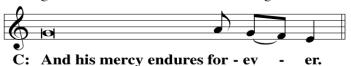
THANKSGIVING

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis



P: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

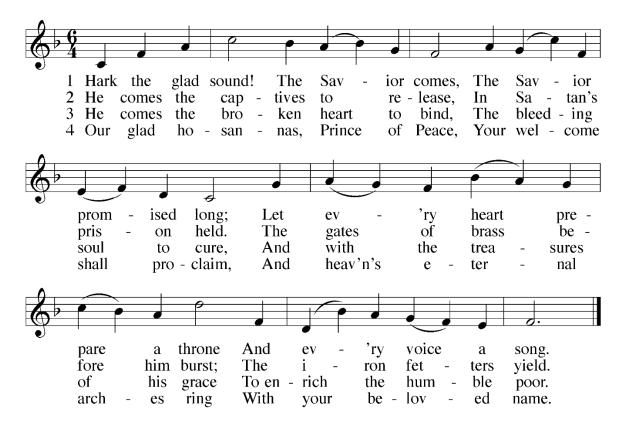
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



Closing Hymn: CW 12

ADVENT

12 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes



Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51, abr., alt.

Tune: CHESTERFIELD (CM) Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820, alt.

POSTLUDE MUSIC: Wake, Awake for Night Is Flying

Johann Walther

Officiants
Accompanist: Dottie Bober
Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Nate Fager

^{*}All church service and music items are printed under One License – A-717618.

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—We extended a call to Pastor Kendall Cook. Pastor Cook returned the call for Associate Pastor. A new call meeting is being scheduled soon.

PAULA'S HOUSE: Once again this year Zion Church and School is supporting the women and the children who are staying at Paula's House. The giving tree is in the school hallway with gift tags. Please have the gift wrapped and returned to the school by Monday, December 18th. If you have time available and would like to come help us sort and label the gifts for delivery we are planning on Tuesday, December 19th after morning coffee at the Oasis (in the Zion gym) to begin work. Thank you in advance for all the support.

DECORATING THE SANCTUARY: This year the sanctuary decorating is scheduled for Saturday, December 9th at 9 a.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the west foyer to let us know how many people we can plan on having here to decorate. Many hands make quick work. Please consider using your talents and time to come help make the sanctuary represent this wonderful time of the year.

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. First Advent Worship Service (IC/CC)

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

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class

5:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. First Midweek Advent Worship Service

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Second Advent Worship Service

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

December Volunteers

	Nov. 29 & Dec. 3	Dec. 6 & 10	Dec. 13 & 17	Dec. 20	Dec. 24	Dec. 25	Dec. 31
Altar Guild			Linda Selvidge &	Diane Affholter			
Live Stream Helpers	Erich Freiny	Rob Krueger	Ryan Roth	Steve Sordahl	9:00 a.m. Miller Sordahl 7:00 p.m. William Robinson	Erich Freiny	Rob Krueger
Ushers	Nov. 29 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Dec. 3 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier	Dec. 6 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier Dec. 10 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matt Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	Dec. 13 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matt Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson Dec. 17 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach Turner	<u>Dec. 20</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach Turner	Dec. 24 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick Zach Turner 7:00 p.m. Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Russ Vitale	<u>Dec. 25</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger	<u>Dec. 31</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Ray Palmatier
Communion Helpers	<u>Nov. 29</u> Mark Kipf <u>Dec. 3</u> Jake Burke Alan Bober		<u>Dec. 13</u> Ken Vagt <u>Dec. 17</u> Rob Krueger Mark Kipf				