

CHRISTMAS EVE

A Festival Service of Word & Sacrament

December 24, 2021



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

85 E. Brandt Blvd.

Landisville, PA 17538

Connecting with God; Connecting with others; Connecting others with God.

GENERAL INFORMATION

WELCOME TO ZION! We are glad you have chosen to worship with us with in-person or online this Christmas Eve! Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones!

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT ZION

IN-PERSON: All are invited to join us for worship at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday morning.

ONLINE: Worship services are live-streamed on the church YouTube channel: [http://bit.ly/Zion Live](http://bit.ly/Zion_Live). If you are unable or prefer not to watch during the live-stream, the recording is available to view any time after the service concludes.

FOR THOSE WORSHIPPING IN-PERSON

- ❖ Mask wearing is recommended for all who attend or participate in any indoor gathering, including worship, at the church. This recommendation is for those who are vaccinated as well as for those who are not. If you are not vaccinated, we are asking you to please wear a mask to keep your fellow congregants as safe as possible. Church should be a loving, caring environment, and we would like to keep it that way.
- ❖ Communion is distributed in continuous fashion or you may take one of the communion kits at the back of the Sanctuary if you prefer to commune at your seat.
- ❖ Restrooms are available by the front entrance of the church in the Narthex and in the hallway off the back door.
- ❖ Children are welcome to be active participants in the worship service. There are bags located in the Narthex with quiet worship activities to take home. Currently, nursery care is not available.
- ❖ Ushers are located near the front and back of the worship area to direct people to seating and to the offering plates.

A Festival Service of Word and Sacrament

P: Pastor A: Assisting Minister R: Reader C: Congregation (bolded)

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* **arr. by M. Ham**
John Landis: Organ Lisa Nelson: Piano
Go Tell It On the Mountain **arr. by M. Hayes**
John Landis: Organ Cory Paternoster: Drumset
It Came Upon A Midnight Clear **arr. by R. Graham**
John Landis: Piano James Landis: Organ
Christmas Rhapsody **arr. by J. Schaum**
Lisa Nelson: Piano

PRELUDE *Variations on 'Adeste Fideles'* **arr. by M. Dupre**

OPENING HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* **ELW 283**

1. O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest: *Refrain*

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

WELCOME

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome. We are here in God's presence, to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Together we will hear the story of the coming of Jesus, and offer our thanksgiving to God. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P: We praise you, O God, as we light the Christ Candle in our Advent wreath. Jesus has been born. The angels sing and the shepherds race to the manger's side. Guide us as we come to the stable to behold the gift of your light and life. Fill us with Christmas joy and lead us to share the Good News. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

ANTHEM

On Christmas Night

arr. by R.V. Williams

THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD – SONG AND DRAMA

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came ELW 265 vs. 1,2, & 3



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
 Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
 how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by;
 Yet in the dark streets shineth
 The everlasting light.
 The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary,
 And, gathered, all above
 While mortals sleep, the angels keep
 Their watch of wond'ring love.
 O morning stars together,
 Proclaim the holy birth,
 And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

“I Was There”: The Inn Keeper’s Wife

Away in a Manger

ELW 278

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
 the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
 the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
 but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
 I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
 and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

What Child Is This?

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

The First Noel

ELW 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
tin - ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The Inn Keeper's Wife

ANTHEM

Jazz Gloria

N. Sleeth

Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW 289



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The Inn Keeper's Wife

Mary Did You Know?

1. Mary did you know that your baby boy
Would one day walk on water?
Mary did you know that your baby boy
Would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy
Has come to make you new?
This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.
2. Mary did you know that your baby boy
Would give sight to the blind man?
Mary did you know that your baby boy
Would calm a storm with His hand?



Did you know that your baby boy
Has walked where angels trod?
And when you kiss your little baby
You've kissed the face of God?
Oh Mary did you know?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear,
The dead will live again.
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak
The praises of the Lamb!

3. Oh Mary did you know that your baby boy
Is Lord of all creation?
Mary did you know that your baby boy
Will one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy
Is heaven's perfect Lamb?
And the sleeping Child you're holding
Is the great I Am?

PRAYER AROUND THE MANGER (written by Robert Louis Stevenson)

ALL: Loving God, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and may Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

NICENE CREED

ALL: 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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

PRAYERS

A: Tonight we pray for God's world and all the people who live in it. Gracious God,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

A: We pray that all Christians will shine with the light of Christ in the world.

Gracious God,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

A: We pray that everyone will come to know the light of Christ in their lives.

Gracious God,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

A: We pray that our leaders, teachers, nurses, and doctors will be servants of the light of Christ in this world. Gracious God,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

A: We pray that all hungry or homeless children will find comfort in the light of Christ. Gracious God,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for all people who are sick or afraid, lonely or sad, that they may be cheered by the light of Christ. Gracious God,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

P: We commend all the people we love and all people in need to God in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and the light of the world.

C: **Amen**

PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

† THE MEAL †

HYMN

It Came upon a Midnight Clear

ELW 282

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heav’n’s all-gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

2. For lo! The days are hast’ning on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876

PRAYER

A: Holy One, as we celebrate the birth of the Christ Child, we seek to honor you with these monetary gifts. We know that everything in this world is a gift from you, O God, so we humbly return a generous portion of these gifts to you. We pray that these gifts may help this church to change people’s lives and to spread your message of salvation. In the name of the Babe lying in the manger, we pray.

C: **Amen**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts!

C: **We lift them to the Lord!**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.*

LORD'S PRAYER

P: You are invited to join as a community of faith as we pray...
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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.
C: **Amen.**

PARTAKING IN THE BREAD AND CUP OF SALVATION

All baptized Christians are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament. You may commune in your pew with one of the individually packaged kits or you may commune by coming forward to receive the elements in continuous fashion. Those who do not or choose not to partake of the sacrament may come forward and receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please let one of the ushers know and the pastor will come to you.

FOR THOSE COMMUNING WITH THE KITS

Open the wafer packet.

P: The body of Christ, given for you.
C: **Amen.**
Open the cup.

P: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

C: **Amen.**

Please place communion cups & wrappers in the trash can as you exit the Sanctuary.

FOR THOSE COMMUNING BY COMING FORWARD

For those not able to have red wine, there is grape juice in the outer circle of every tray. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. When given the bread and cup, the communion ministers will say: “The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you,” to which you may respond: “Amen.”

AFTER COMMUNING

Please use this time for quiet reflection until all worshippers have communed and have returned to their seat.

COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Infinite, intimate God, in this Eucharist we have celebrated your presence with us. May we grow in the divine life of Christ who humbly shared our human life. Fill us with joy and send us out to share this good news with others. We ask this through Jesus Christ Emmanuel, God with us.

C: **Amen**

P: Once the world was so dark that God could hardly be seen. Then, God sent Jesus.

C: **Now, because God sent Jesus, everyone may see God.**

The pastor lights a candle from the Christ light. The ushers light their candles from the pastor and, in turn, the congregation members light their candles from the ushers' candles. Be sure to tip of the candle being lit to the lighting candle's flame to avoid dripping wax.

P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The true light, which gives light to everyone, came into the world. Glory to the newborn king.

C: **Jesus, the light of the world.**

(Silent Night is played quietly during the candle lighting. When all candles are lit, the lights are turned down for the singing of the carol.)

Silent Night

ELW 281

Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

† THE SENDING †

BENEDICTION

P: The grace of the Christ Child, the love of the God who never ceases to amaze, and the fellowship of the Spirit who never wearies, will be with you this holy night and always.

C: Amen

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes in -
 the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

DISMISSAL

A: Now go out into the world with great joy, and share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE*Joy to the World*

arr. by S. Aber

Merry Christmas



*~JOIN US FOR A SERVICE OF LESSONS
AND CAROLS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER
26 AT 9:00 A.M.~*

*Special thanks to those who assisted with tonight's music, drama,
and song:*

*Lynda Sherwood, Brenda Stover, Mary & Scott Hetrick,
Dave Albin, Lisa Nelson, Cory Paternoster, James Landis, and
John Landis*

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SPONSORS

Jess & Matt Barcaro

In honor of Grant

Ed & Cindy Blough

In memory of Henry and June Duke

In memory of Charlie Blough

Dave & Donna Dumeyer

In honor of our daughters and their families

In memory of our parents

Diane Gerlach

In memory of Bruce Gerlach

Robin Ginther

In memory of my parents

Gloria Grube

In honor of my family

James Grube

John & Kathy Hay

In honor of our children and grandchildren

Scott & Mary Hetrick

In honor of Maria and Katie

Pat & John Hinkle

In memory of our fathers: Elwood J. King and John F. Hinkle, Sr.

The Kautter Family

In memory of Patricia Kautter

Adele & Sam King

In honor of our grandchildren: Alex, Emme, and Leia

In honor of our children: Alison, Justin, and Jessica

In memory of our departed family: mothers, fathers, grandparents, and Betty

In memory of our departed friends: Jan, Sharon, Mary, and Rick

Nina Laliberte

In memory of Aunt Helen

Rick & Deb Long

In honor of our mothers: Ruth Burkett and Mary Long

In honor of our children and their spouses

In memory of our fathers: Francis Deller and Merrill Long

In memory of Rick's sister, Betsy

In honor of the birth of our Lord Jesus



Randy Miller

In memory of Mary Keiper and Donald Oeschager

In honor of my family

Harry & Janet Musselman

In memory of our parents, George & Lena Miller

In memory of Howard & Leone Musselman

In memory of Rebecca Miller and Pat Lorah

Jan Reeves

In memory of Arlie

Dawn Reinhart and Sons: Jeffrey, Kevin, and Mark

In memory of our beloved Chis

Sue & Doug Rhoads

In honor of our children, grandchildren, and Gigi

Marvin & Wenda Ruch

In memory of our parents

Cathy & Bob Shirk

In memory of Dolores Derr and Eugene & Phylis Shirk

Jo Stone

In memory of all my loved family who are no longer with us.

Brenda Stover

In memory of Lillian Stover

Bob & Judy Traup

In honor of our children, grandchildren, and Zion friends

In memory of our parents: Mamie, Mary Ann and Chuck Trexel

Bob & Barb Wildasin

In memory of Bob, Helen, and Cork & George Doll

In memory of Cleo, Lillian, & Harry Wildasin

Kurt Wildasin

In memory of Sarah Wildasin

Dave & Sue Wise

In memory of John and Martha Wise, Daves's parents

In honor of John and Loma Slike, Sue's parents

In honor of Grant Matthew Barcaro, grandson



In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

SALVATION TO ALL

“Good news” is a familiar phrase for Christians, but in the world outside the bible the Greek word we translate as “bringing . . . good news” (Luke 2:10) was used to announce a new emperor. The Emperor Augustus commands that the world be counted, and those with the least are required to do the most to fulfill the requirements of those in power. The scene at the manger, however, is anything but imperial. In Bethlehem, God's power is revealed in weakness, and the people who count include even the migrant laborers keeping watch over their flocks by night.

What does it mean this Christmas for us to hear that God is found in the hidden, the neglected, the immodest places of the world? What does it mean for us this year to know that when God takes a census, all the people of the world matter as much as any citizen of any empire?

The Nativity of Our Lord is the story of God's reign spilling over the boundaries set by the powerful people of the world and into the margins. Dark nights and fragile infants interrupted by migrant laborers and choirs of angels point to a vision of the world as it should be, where “being connected” to the right people is replaced by being interconnected through a spirit of unity that brings us all out of the margins and into the center of life. In the infant Jesus, God declares a new standard for power, a word of hope, “good news” for all who are fragile, all who are weak, all who are overlooked, all who are despised, all who are abandoned, all who are homeless, all who are hovering between life and death. The festival of the incarnation is indeed “salvation to all” (Titus 2:11).

MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministers	Members of the Congregation
Interim Pastor	Rev. Melody Sell
Music Director	John Landis
Parish Administrator	Anne Rankin
Worship Technology Assistant	David Albin
Lay Ministry Assistant	Diane Gerlach
Council President	Adele King
Council Vice President	David Wise
Sextons	Brian Bourassa (a.m.)
	Tom Miller (p.m.)
Tonight's Assisting Minister	Lynda Sherwood
Tonight's Advent Readers & Lighters	Scott & Mary Hetrick

WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOL, & CONTACT INFORMATION

In-Person Worship	Sundays @ 9:00 a.m.
Christmas Eve Worship	7:00 p.m.
Livestream & Recorded Link for all services	http://bit.ly/Zion_Live
Adult Sunday School Classes (Parlor & Social Room)	Sundays @ 10:15 a.m.
	No class on 12/26 or 1/ 2
Church Office	717-898-2911
Pastor	570-916-8835
Parish Administrator	717-945-4585
Council President	610-247-1497
Office Email	adminzelc@comcast.net
Pastor Email	prmsell2@ptd.net
Council President Email	adelel3@aol.com
Music Director Email	zionlandisvillemusic@gmail.com
Website	www.zionhempfield.net
Facebook	Zion Lutheran Hempfield
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