

CHRISTMAS EVE

A Service of Word & Sacrament

December 24, 2020



In-Person: 7:00 & 10:00 p.m.

Live-Streamed & Recorded: 7:00 p.m.

http://bit.ly/Zion_Live

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

85 E. Brandt Boulevard

Landisville, PA

CHRISTMAS EVE

A Service of Word & Sacrament

P: Pastor A: Assisting Minister C: Congregation

ABOUT THIS EVENING'S SERVICE

This evening's service is based on The Great O's, an ancient hymn prayer sung today as O Come, O Come Immanuel. The Great O's speak of the coming of Jesus using the words of the prophet Isaiah. On this Christmas Eve we remember those words and then give thanks that He did come down to walk among us as an example of God's love.

EXTENDED PRELUDE *Christmas Carol Medley* J. Kirkby

CHIMES *Christmas Hymns for Bells* J. Weber

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand if you are able.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

A: 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 run 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 come among us. Amen.

C: **Amen.**

Light four candles and the Christ candle.

HYMN *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* ELW 257
You are invited to hum along.

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here
 until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

2. O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain*

3. O come, O come, O Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

4. O come, O Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

5. O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*

6. O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*

7. O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*

8. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

THE GREETING

P: 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.**

PRAYER

P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

† THE WORD †

READING

P: O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation. Isaiah had prophesied, the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord, and his delight shall be the fear of the Lord (Isaiah 11:2-3), and wonderful is His counsel and great is His wisdom (Isaiah 28:29).

O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain: come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free. Isaiah had prophesied, but He shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the lands afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips (Isaiah 11:4-5); and indeed the Lord will be there with us, majestic; yes the Lord our judge, the Lord our lawgiver, the Lord our king, he it is who will save us (Isaiah 33:22).

SPECIAL MUSIC

O Little Town of Bethlehem

arr. by M. Hayes
Lisa Nelson, piano

READING

A: O Flower of Jesse's stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid. Isaiah had prophesied, but a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom (Isaiah 11:1), and on that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious (Isaiah 11:10). Remember also that Jesse was the father of King David, and Micah had prophesied that the Messiah would be of the house and lineage of David and be born in David's city, Bethlehem (Micah 5:1).

O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of Heaven: Come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death; and lead your captive people into freedom. Isaiah had prophesied, will place the Key of the House of David on His shoulder; when he opens, no one will shut, when he shuts, no one will open (Isaiah 22:22), and His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over His kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever (Isaiah 9:6).

SPECIAL MUSIC

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

A. Risinger

READING

P: O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shown (Isaiah 9:1).

O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust. Isaiah had prophesied, for a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:5), and He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again (Isaiah 2:4).

SPECIAL MUSIC*Angels from the Realms of Glory*arr. by M. Ware
James Alfieri, organ
Lisa Nelson, piano**READING**

A: O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people, come and set us free, Lord our God. Isaiah had prophesied, The Lord himself will give you this sign: the Virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:14). Remember Emmanuel means God is with us.

HYMN*He Came Down*

ELW 253

You are invited to hum along.

1. He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.
2. He came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
hallelujah forevermore.
3. He came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
hallelujah forevermore.
4. He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
hallelujah forevermore.

Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

Pastor Melody Sell

SPECIAL MUSIC

Go Tell It On The Mountain

J. Abdenour

Please stand if you are able.

NICENE CREED

P: Let us profess our faith together.

C: **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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

A: Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

The shepherds sing, “Jesus Christ is born!” Let your church throughout the world proclaim this good news, over the hills and everywhere. Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing.

Heaven and nature sing, “Joy to the world!” Give respite to flocks, fields, and those who tend them. Come near to us in the beauty of nighttime, the shining of the stars, and the hush of a world at rest. May our wonder at your creation rouse our care for all the earth.

The angels sing, “Peace on earth!” Come quickly to still the strife of this world. Hush the noise of war and violence in places of unrest. Inspire leaders of nations to seek lasting peace and sustainable provision for all in their care.

Mary sings melodies of comfort to her newborn child. Bring rest and reassurance to those facing struggles this night. Shelter travelers and those without homes. Console those who lie awake due to pain or anxiety. Heal those who are sick or hurting.

Love sings through the sound of a new baby’s cry. Bless new parents and expectant parents. Comfort those who long for children, especially those running out of hope or options. Surround families of every shape and size with your love and care.

The heavenly chorus sings, “Glory to God in the highest!” We give you thanks for all the saints who have proclaimed your glory in word and deed. Let us join them this night in joyful praise around your eternal throne.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you.

C: And also with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Joy to the World

W. Held

† **THE MEAL** †

SETTING OF THE TABLE

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Gracious God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Dialogue

- 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.**

The Preface

- P: It is indeed right and our duty and joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn with these words:
C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P: Holy God, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: *Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in 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 in remembrance of me.*

- P: Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: We pray together.

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: The Word is revealed in a manger, in simple bread and wine. Come meet Christ in this meal.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PARTAKING IN THE BREAD AND CUP OF SALVATION

The congregation opens the wafer packet.

P: The body of Christ given for you.

C: **Amen.**

The congregation opens the cup.

P: The blood of Christ shed for you.

C: **Amen.**

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

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us from your very self with the body and blood of Christ. Through this mystery, send us forth to proclaim your promise to a world in need, through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

Please stand if you are able.

† **THE SENDING** †

MUSICAL BENEDICTION

Silent Night, Holy Night

ELW 281

You are invited to hum along.

1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

3. Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day
‡ through the Word made flesh.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

W. Held



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SPONSORS

Al & Connie Alsedek

In memory of our parents

Horst & Lisa Bernhard

In honor of Andrew & Sara Bernhard

In memory of Bob & Charlotte Williams, Andreas Bernhard,

Esther & Bud Little

Ed & Cindy Blough

In memory of Henry & June Duke

In memory of Charlie Blough

Ron & Kay Crawford

In memory of our daughter Jennifer Thompson

Dave & Donna Dumeyer

To the glory of God

Diane Gerlach

In memory of Bruce Gerlach: husband, dad, and "Poppy"

In memory of Terry Steinmetz, brother

In memory of Walter & Laura Steinmetz, parents

Joanne Grim

In honor of my great grandsons, Maddox, Myles, Stephen, & Noah

Gloria Grube

In memory of my loving husband, Weidler

Jim & Millie Gundel

In memory of our son, Steven Gundel

Pat & John Hinkle

In memory of our fathers – Elwood King & John Hinkle, Sr.

The Kautter Family

In memory of Patricia Kautter

Sam & Adele King

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

In honor of our grandchildren: Alexander, Emerson, and Leia

In memory of our parents and grandparents

In memory of our friends who died this year: Judy & Mary

In memory of Sam's sister, Betty

Lynda, Bob, Alec, & MARRISA Martin

In memory of Jennifer Thompson: sister & aunt

Joan Mays

In memory of Earl Mays

Joan Oberrender

Merry Christmas to my Zion family who I am missing this season. Blessings to you all in 2021.

Madison, Chase, & Hannah Pipkin

In honor of Mommom

In memory of Poppy

Todd & Suzanne Reed

In memory of Palma Reed

Jan Reeves

In memory of Arlie and our loved ones

Wife Dawn & Sons Jeff, Kevin, & Mark Reinhart

In memory of our beloved Chis

Bob & Cathy Shirk

In honor of Tyler, Taylor, & AJ – our grandchildren

In memory of Dolores Derr and Eugene & Phyliss Shirk

Frank & Kaylee Thompson

In memory of Jennifer Thompson: wife & mother

David & Dottie Wauls

To the glory of God for the blessings of families: Brett Wauls' family & Heather Wauls Duhart's family

Laura & Don Wierschke

In memory of our sons and their families

Kurt Wildasin

In memory of Sarah Wildasin

Bob & Barb Wildasin

In memory of Robert, Helen, Cork, George, & Bryan Doll

In memory of Cleo, Lillian, & Harry Wildasin

Barb Williams

In memory of Tom

Dave & Sue Wise

In memory of John & Martha Wise

In honor of John & Loma Slike

MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministers
Interim Pastor
Assisting Ministers

Dir. of Music & Worship Arts
Parish Administrator
Worship Technology Assistant
Lay Ministry Assistant
Council President
Council Vice President
Sextons

Members of the Congregation
Pastor Melody Sell
Chase Pipkin (7:00 p.m.)
Todd Reed (10:00 p.m.)
James C. Alfieri
Anne Rankin
David Albin
Diane Gerlach
Adele King
David Wise
Brian Bourassa (a.m.)
Tom Miller (p.m.)

WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOL, & CONTACT INFORMATION

In-Person Worship Services 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School Class (Zoom) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2283229266>
10:30-11:15 a.m.
Christmas Eve Services 7:00 & 10:00 p.m.
Live-stream & Recorded Worship 9:00 a.m.
http://bit.ly/Zion_Live
Church Office 717-898-2911
Pastor 570-916-8835
Parish Administrator 717-945-4585
Council President 610-247-1497
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Council President Email adele13@aol.com
Music Director Email zionlandisvillemusic@gmail.com
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