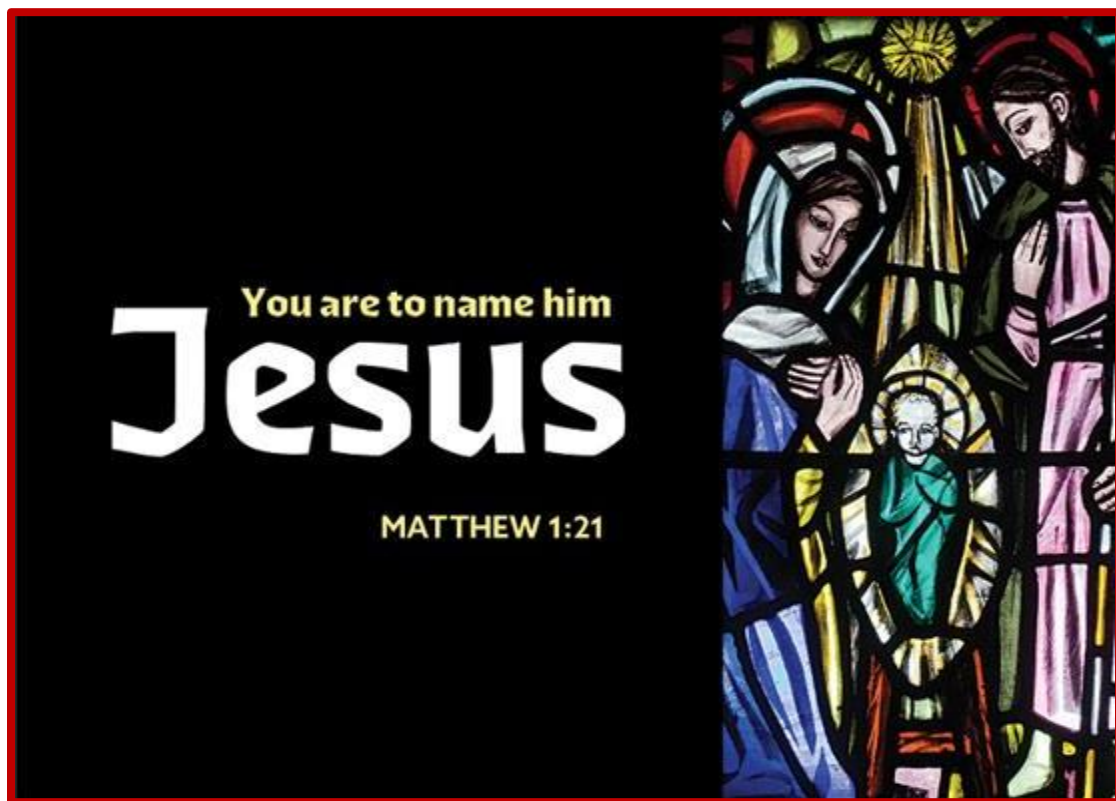


# Fourth Sunday of Advent

*A Service of Word & Sacrament*

*December 21, 2025*



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**85 E. Brandt Boulevard**

**Landisville, PA**

*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 this morning! The service contains the four parts of the Lutheran liturgy (The Gathering, The Word, The Meal, and The Sending). Please note that those who are remembered in the liturgical calendar are included in the Prayers of the Faithful. If you have any questions concerning our service, please do not hesitate to talk with our pastor, Pastor Tim.

## **WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT ZION**

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

**ONLINE:** If you are unable to worship in-person, the service is live-streamed and can be viewed on the church YouTube channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy\\_3AeK\\_pExuVhcUfl2cSw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy_3AeK_pExuVhcUfl2cSw)

## **SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION**

- ❖ Restrooms are available by the front entrance of the church in the narthex and in the hallway off the back door. Infant changing tables can be found in the women's and men's bathrooms in the hallway off the back door.
- ❖ Children are welcome to be active participants in the worship service. There are bags located at the back of the sanctuary with quiet worship activities and goodies to take home. Kids of all ages are invited to come forward for the Children's Chat. After the Children's Chat, all children are welcome to leave the service to attend Sunday School. Currently, nursery care is not available but you may use the nursery room or the parlor as a calming room while also still being able to listen to the service.
- ❖ Ushers are located near the front and back of the worship area to direct people to seating, assist with other matters, and to answer questions.



# Fourth Sunday of Advent

*P: Pastor      A: Assisting Minister      C: Congregation (bolded)*

## † THE GATHERING †

### INTRODUCTION

*Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*Prelude on "Veni Emmanuel"*

**J. Wayne Kerr**

*Please stand if you are able.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**P:**      Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

**C:**      **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Long-expected God,  
**we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. †  
You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**      *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is-rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

With its opening “Come,” this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = “coming”). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744

MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

HYFRYDOL

8.7.8.7.D

(alternate tune: STUTTGART, 83)

## 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.

## KYRIE

*Refrain*

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.  
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passionate re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
hun - gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam - i - ly; for  
wa - ter and the word; that you

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

*Refrain*  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## † THE WORD †

### ISAIAH 7:10-16

*Jerusalem is surrounded by its enemies, and it seems that utter defeat, followed by the horrors of being sacked, is inevitable. Isaiah, however, promises that by the time a royal princess, now pregnant, gives birth and the child is weaned, the armies will have melted away.*

**A:** <sup>10</sup> The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup> “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it

too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup> For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

# The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

*Please chant responsively.*

*This psalm expresses the fears of Isaiah's audience and hints at Isaiah's reassurance.*



A: <sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph <sup>1</sup>like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- <sup>1</sup>on the cherubim.

**<sup>2</sup>In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin,<sup>1</sup> and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and<sup>1</sup> come to help us.**

<sup>3</sup>Restore | us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

**<sup>40</sup>O Lord | God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray?**

<sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the | bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

**<sup>6</sup>You have made us the derision <sup>1</sup> of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh <sup>1</sup> us to scorn.**

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O | God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

**17 Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.**

<sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn a- | way from you;  
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.

**<sup>19</sup>Restore us, O Lord | God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.**

## ROMANS 1:1-7

*Paul doesn't know the Christians in Rome, but is being taken there under arrest. He begins his letter to them with a summary of the Christmas and Easter Gospel. "Grace" and "peace" were the first century equivalents of "Dear Sir or Madam," but Paul fills this formula with profound meaning.*

A:     <sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup> which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup> the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup> and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup> through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup> including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, <sup>7</sup> To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

C:     **Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

*I Shall Know Him When He Comes*

**Douglas E. Wagner**

## ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

**Doug & Sue Rhoads**

### Week 4: Sending/Discipleship

Reader:     We light four candles and remember that the promise has come full circle. The child once awaited is now the risen Christ, still with us and sending us forth. In this light, we find courage to go, to love, and to live as disciples of Emmanuel—God with us always. Amen.

*Light the first, second, third, and fourth candles.*

### Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

Reader:     Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



**All:**           **Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus. Kindle your light within us, send us forth as bearers of your love, and remind us you are with us always. Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S CHAT**

*Please stand if you are able.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Wait for the Lord  
Sing three times through*

**ELW 262**

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## **MATTHEW 1:18-25**

*Matthew begins his Gospel with Jesus' family tree, and then moves immediately to this story of his birth. At its center is a key to Matthew's message throughout the Gospel – Jesus is “God with us.” Indeed, Matthew's Gospel will end with Jesus promising, “I will be with you always, to the close of the age.”*

**P:**       The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

P: <sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

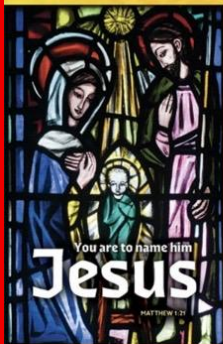
The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

## MESSAGE

**Pastor Tim Seitz-Brown**




**Spot the “quiet divorces”:** Let’s notice when someone is being erased from belonging through silence or gossip or “moving on.”

**Stop shame from spreading:** Let’s avoid forwarding, repeating, or profiting from stories that turn people into garbage.

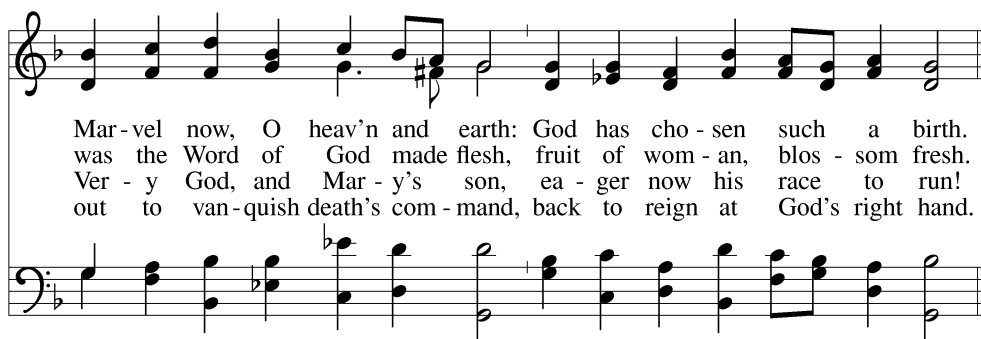
**Practice risk taking mercy:** Let’s ask where God might be inviting us to move beyond safe, harmless, sanitary kindness towards dangerous, visible solidarity.

**Name belonging out loud:** Let’s use our voices to restore dignity, because honor grows when people are named, claimed, and celebrated.

*Please stand if you are able.*



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.  
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,  
 3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child— from his throne, a vir - gin mild!  
 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.  
 was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.  
 Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
 out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,  
 hallows night with newborn light.  
 Night cannot this light subdue;  
 let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,  
 virgin's son, incarnate Word!  
 To the holy Trinity  
 praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version

Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524

Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## 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, 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.\* 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.**

*ELW note: “and the Son” reflects the Western tradition.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

A: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

In the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival. Stir our spirits through the gifts of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers, as together we proclaim your advent among us. We pray especially for John Landis, Zion’s choir, the Praise Team, and all who bring special music to our worship. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

The earth breaks forth in singing as it heralds the Messiah’s coming. Fill our hearts with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth—through the farmlands and rolling hills of Lancaster County, the Susquehanna River, the Conestoga and Pequea Creeks, the preserved woodlands, and the wide winter skies that proclaim your glory. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good, that communities may flourish together. Strengthen our commitment to mutual flourishing and the interconnected wellbeing of all

people, that we might recognize the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of depression, or who are ill, especially those on Zion's prayer lists. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless young children and new parents, especially at Zion and in our local neighborhood. Guide us in ways that provide safety for all children and those who care for them. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service. Strengthen our earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your love. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.  
**Amen.**

## **THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

## **† THE MEAL †**

### **PRAYER**

A: Let us pray. Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

C: **Amen.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: **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: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

*Please be seated.*

## PARTAKING IN THE BREAD AND CUP OF SALVATION

*All baptized Christians are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament. Those who do not or choose not to partake of the sacrament may receive a blessing.*

*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."*

*Please use this time for quiet reflection or song until all worshippers have communed and have returned to their seats.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

### *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

ELW 257



1	O	come,	O	come,	Em - man	-	u - el,	and	ran - som	cap - tive
2	O	come,	O	Wis - dom	from		on high,	em - brac - ing	all	things
3	O	come,	O	come,	O	Lord	of might,	as	to	your tribes on
4	O	come,	O	Branch of	Jes	-	se, free	your own	from	Sa - tan's



Is	-	ra - el,	that	mourns	in	lone - ly	ex	-	ile	here
far		and nigh:	in	strength	and	beau - ty	come		and	stay;
Si	-	nai's height	in	an - cient	times	you	gave		the	law
tyr	-	an - ny;	from	depths	of	hell	your	peo	-	ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way.  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

- 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*

Text: 5' 0" 1 0001 Алгоритм Форсажа:  
 Music: АЕИГ ЕММАНУЕЛГ Египет processionary 12th century  
 Text: Бэагелероуи Сапюиоуи Сапюиесауиу Коу 1110: а composite

*Please stand if you are able.*

## 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. God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.  
Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit  
in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

## † THE SENDING †

## BLESSING

P: May God who comes among us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you  
patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and  
always.

C: Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

### *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

ELW 242



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall

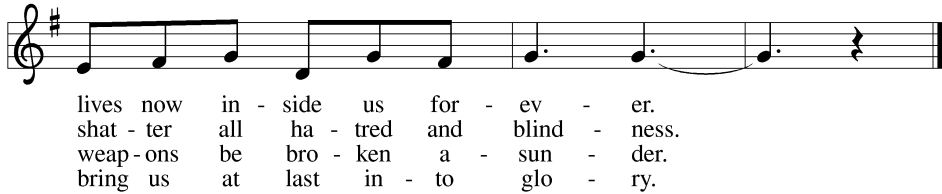
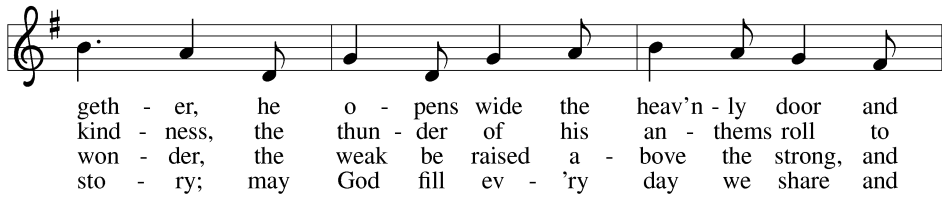


soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less





Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God. We will!

POSTLUDE *Chorale Prelude on "Nun komm, der heiden Heiland"*

J.S. Bach



## **THIS WEEK AT ZION**

### **Sunday, December 21 – Advent 4**

*\* The altar flowers are sponsored by Brenda Stover in memory of her mother, Lillian Stover.*

*\* The bulletins are sponsored by Dave & Sue Wise in dedication to their grandchildren, Grant and Julia.*

*\* The communion elements are sponsored by Amy & Jeff Thompson in celebration of Christmas and the spirit of this special day!*

Worship – 9:00 a.m. (In-Person & Livestreamed/Recorded)

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy\\_3AeK\\_pExuVhcUfl2cSw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy_3AeK_pExuVhcUfl2cSw)

Children's Sunday School – Kids are excused after the Children's Chat

Christmas Trivia – 10:30 a.m. (Social Room)

Hempfield H.S. Holiday Concert – 2 p.m. (Sanctuary)

### **Monday, December 22**

Food Pantry – 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

### **Tuesday, December 23**

Bible Study – 9 a.m. (Parlor)

### **Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**

Food Pantry Closed

Christmas Eve Worship – 7 p.m. (Prelude music begins at 6:30 p.m.)

### **Thursday, December 25 – Merry Christmas!**

Office Closed

### **Friday, December 26 – Boxing Day**

Office Closed

### **Saturday, December 27**

Model Club – 5 p.m. (Social Room/Kitchen)

### **Sunday, December 28 – Pastor Tim off (Rev. Chris Rankin – guest pastor)**

Worship – 9:00 a.m. (In-Person & Livestreamed/Recorded)

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy\\_3AeK\\_pExuVhcUfl2cSw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy_3AeK_pExuVhcUfl2cSw)

Children's Sunday School – Kids are excused after the Children's Chat

**COMING UP ON TUES., JAN. 6 at 12 Noon in the Zone**

**“You Are Not Alone”:**

**A luncheon for widows & widowers to celebrate the  
Twelve Days of Christmas**

*\*Sign up on the bulletin board by next Sunday, Dec. 28\**

*~Sponsored by the Care Team~*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES, & EVENTS



**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**  
*Wednesday, December 24 at 7 p.m.*  
*(Prelude music begins at 6:30 p.m.)*



**SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**  
*Sunday, December 28 at 9:00 a.m.*

**ZION ARTS SERIES: Holiday Concert**  
**Performed by Hempfield High School**  
**THIS AFTERNOON: Sunday, December 21 at 2 p.m.**

### **CHRISTMAS TRIVIA – TODAY (December 21) after worship**

After worship, all are invited to come to the social room for Christmas Trivia! Even if you don't typically go to one of the Sunday School classes, you are welcome to join in the fun on this morning!

### **ADVENT & DAILY DEVOTIONALS**

Devotionals can be found on the ushers' table and on the window sill ledge in the back hallway across from the choir room. Advent devotionals and other resources for all ages are available on the ushers' table and on the window sill in the back hallway Help yourself.

### **2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Offering envelopes for the new year have been distributed in church mailboxes. Please get yours today!

### **JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING: DECEMBER**

This month contributions will go to Day of Smiles. Contributions collected be disbursed between the various organizations in the community that this annual event will support, including Clare House, Milagro House, Pet Pantry of Lanc., and Hershey Mill Home. Day of Smiles is a way to remember and honor the smiles and generosity that locals Erin (McCartney) and Max Nusbaum shared with many before their tragic death 20 years ago; Erin was 27 and Max was 30.

## ADVENT BANNERS

As we prepare for the coming birth of Jesus, the anticipation builds as a banner in front of the Sanctuary is added each week. The 4<sup>th</sup> banner design has swirls ascending upward leading to a city with a heart in the middle and a star above. This banner illustrates the journey to Bethlehem. The 3<sup>rd</sup> banner design is of an angel holding a heart above its head with swirls ascending, extending upward to God and the heavens. The 2<sup>nd</sup> banner has a candle with a heart in its flame and a swirl rising upward symbolizing prayer and commitment to God. This banner represents our turning to God. The 1<sup>st</sup> banner has a large, open hand of God with a heart in the middle of the hand and a swirl descending to us. The idea is that God chooses us in grace and stirs our hearts in love and power.



*First Banner*



*Second Banner*



*Third Banner*



*Fourth Banner*

### ***A LITTLE HISTORY ABOUT THE ADVENT BANNERS***

*These special banners were made by a group of Zion women at the Parish Resource Center during Pastor Rick Whitesel's time at Zion.*

*The ladies involved in this banner project were Nancy Myers, Denise Haun, Diane Ramer, Sue Wise, Millie Gunde, and Barb Gerke. The church is fortunate to have had their interest, time, & labor to put toward learning how to create them.*

*These Advent banners are a treasure of Zion!*

*What a blessing to display them each Advent season!*

The Lutheran Camping Corporation  
of Central Pennsylvania  
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm

**FOR MORE INFO & TO REGISTER**

<https://www.lutherancamping.org/>



### **ADVENT/CHRISTMAS IN A BARN**

***This evening, 12/21; 7p.m. @ The Wittel Farm***

Come for an intimate evening of scripture, hymns & songs, prayers, & joyful music. We gather in the barn around a manger with candlelight, hot cocoa, & cookies.

### **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT A GLANCE**

**Sun., 12/21 at 9 a.m.**

**Worship (Advent 4)**

**Sun., 12/21 at 10:30 a.m.**

**Christmas Trivia (Zone)**

**Sun., 12/21 at 2:00 p.m.**

**Hempfield H.S. Holiday Concert**

**Wed., 12/24: Christmas Eve**

**Worship at 7:00 p.m.**

**(Prelude begins at 6:30 p.m.)**

**Sun., 12/28 at 9 a.m.**

**Worship (Service of Lessons &  
Carols)**

### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

All children are invited to go with their teachers after the Children's Chat for Sunday School. Class will be held each Sunday at this time during the service.

Questions? See Denise Haun.



## BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. in the parlor and focuses on the scriptures and their related topics. Everyone is welcome – come discover the message God has for each of us!

## ANNUAL REPORTS

Attention All Ministry Teams: Please email Anne your end of year report and goals for 2026!

## JOURNEYS: A GROUP TO SUPPORT WELLNESS

Journeys will continue to meet in 2026 on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor: January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19.

### CHURCH EVENTS AT A GLANCE

#### December

21: Christmas Trivia (10:30 a.m.; Social Room)

21: Hempfield H.S. Holiday Concert (2 p.m.; Sanctuary)

24: Christmas Eve Worship (7 p.m.) [Prelude music begins at 6:30 p.m.]

28: Service of Lessons and Carols (9 a.m.)

#### January

6: 12 Days of Christmas Luncheon for Widows & Widowers (10:30 p.m.; Zone)



## STAY UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE SYNOD & ELCA

Interested in knowing what is going on in the Synod and around the world in other congregations? Subscribe to the weekly email, “WE News.” Go to the Lower Susquehanna Synod website and subscribe today! The homepage for the Synod is: <https://www.lss-elca.org/> and the direct link to subscribe is: <https://www.lss-elca.org/we-news-signup/>

## ONLINE GIVING

Interested in online giving? The link is on the homepage of the church website, or go directly: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZM24/home>

## COMMUNITY MEAL AT ZION (LANDISVILLE)

*Come Join Us for a Free Meal  
and to Meet Your Neighbors!*

### 2026 DATES

January 8 & 22

February 12 & 26

March 12 & 26

April 9 & 23

May 14 & 28

## **FOOD PANTRY UPDATE & REQUESTED ITEMS**

The Hempfield Area Food Pantry continues to make a significant impact on those in need in the community. In November the pantry served 616 children, 997 adults, and 407 seniors – a total of 2,022 people. Among those individuals, there were 45 new and re-registered families that received food in November. (Re-registered families are those that have not been to the Pantry since July.)

Additionally, the pantry is grateful for the 54 volunteers who volunteered a combined 703 hours throughout the month. Without them, the pantry would not operate.

### **REQUESTED ITEMS**

Peanut butter (1 pound size)	Strawberry jelly	Tomato paste
Spaghetti sauce	Canned mandarin oranges	Canned pears
Canned pineapple	Canned chick peas	
Canned spinach	Canned chicken (regular size)	
Canned red beets	Lentils ( 1 pound bags) and other dried beans	



### **THANK YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS**

***From Mr. & Mrs. Michael Brodman & Family***

Dear Zion, Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Hope everything is going well for you. We just wanted to thank you for allowing the Hempfield Food Pantry in the church. It is greatly appreciated. Thank you also for the community meals you have during the year. It's great to have people around like you that want to help others. Thanks for all you have done and God bless you.



### **THANK YOU FROM DAVE WISE**

I want to express my gratitude and thanks to pastor Tim and my Zion family members for their kind words and thoughts, cards, altar flowers, and especially their prayers – all expressions of love – during my recent hospitalizations and recuperating at home. They all had special meaning to me and will help shorten my road to recovery.



***Be a part of Joan Mays' milestone birthday celebration on Tuesday, December 30 by sending cards!***

***1212 Nissley Rd., Lancaster 17601***



## WOMEN OF ZION ADVENT BREAKFAST



**Women of Zion gathered on  
Saturday, December 6 for  
an Advent breakfast at  
Centerville Diner.**

**It was a time full of holiday  
cheer and JOY!**





## 2025 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SPONSORS

**Lisa & Horst Bernhard**

*In memory of Bob & Charlotte Williams and Andy & Lori Bernhard*

**Ed and Cindy Blough**

*In memory of Henry & June Duke*

*In memory of Charlie & Nancy Blough*

**Dave and Donna Dumeyer**

*To the glory of God*

*For World Peace*

**Darrell Gerke**

*In memory of Barbara*

**James Grube**

*In memory of my parents*

**Steve & Denise Haun**

*In memory of Bill & Charlotte Haun and Bill Mattern*

*In honor of Dorothy Mattern*

**John and Kathy Hay**

*In memory of our parents: Harold & Gladys Ney and Paul & Dorothy Hay*

**Scott and Mary Hetrick**

*In memory of loved ones*

**Sue and Joe Hinds**

*In memory of William R. May (Susan's father)*

**John Hinkle**

*In memory of Pat K. Hinkle, Elwood J. King, and John F. Hinkle Sr.*

**Kautter Family**

*In memory of Pat*

**Adele King**

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

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

*In memory of our parents and grandparents*

*In memory of our deceased friends, especially Pat Hinkle, Betsy Youndt, Sharon Hollenbach, and Linda Heck*

**Nina Laliberte**

*In honor of my Zion family*

**John & Joanne Marrs**

*In honor of our children: Josh, Jenna, and Jamie (and Brandon & Carson)*

**Randy Miller**

*In honor of my family*

*In memory of my parents and Rae's parents*

**Janet Musselman**

*In memory of Harry Musselman and Rebecca Miller*

**Jan Reeves**

*In memory of Arlie*

**Pastor Tim and Ann Seitz-Brown**

*Keep the Main Thing, the Main Thing*

**Cathy & Bob Shirk**

*In memory of Delores Derr and Eugene & Phyliss Shirk*

**Brenda Stover**

*In memory of my mother, Lillian Stover*

**Bob and Judy Traup**

*In honor of our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren*

*In memory of Mamie, our parents, and Mary Ann*

**Bob Wildasin**

*In memory of Cleo, Lillian, and Harry Wildasin*

**Bob, Kurt, & Nicole Wildasin**

*In memory of Barbara Wildasin*

**Kurt Wildasin**

*In memory of Sarah Wildasin*

**Barbara Williams**

*In memory of Tom Williams*

**Dave and Sue Wise**

*In honor and memory of loved ones*

*In thanks for our Zion church family*

# ***PRAYER LIST***

## ***HEALING***

Joan Mays	Janet Musselman	Al Alsedek	Julia Grove	Holly Hoover
Deb Overly	John Gerlach	Dave Wauls	Connie Alsedek	Bob Shirk
Dave Wise	Kathryn Kochel	Joe Adams	Jess Barcaro	Bill Grove
Kay Crawford	Judie Ingersoll	Barb Williams	Kate Donnan	Sam King

Tom Grzybowski  
Sandy Marrs (Mother of John Marrs)  
Lissa James (Niece of Connie Alsedek)  
Arabelle Page (Student of Amy Thompson)  
Joanne Myers (Friend of Connie Alsedek)  
Mike LaFata (Son-in-law of Bill & Julia Grove)  
Ron Kessler (Brother-in-law of Ann Seitz-Brown)  
Angie Immel (Step-Granddaughter of Bob & Judy Traup)  
Zac & Cindy Zibura (Neighbor of John & Joanne Marrs)  
Randy Smith (Father-in-law of Adele King's daughter)  
Harmony & Family (Friends of Kim & Jim Paternoster)  
Kara Escalante (Goddughter of Barb & Tom Williams)  
James Marks (Grandson of Thelma Pearson and nephew of Dennis & Marie Dezort)

## ***COMFORT, PEACE, STRENGTH, & SAFETY***

Lucy Davis                      Bill Piper                      Arlene Wise (Sister-in-law of Dave Wise)  
Jennifer Kready (Daughter of Dave & Donna Dumeyer)  
Brooke Ross (Friend of Barb Williams)  
Dennis & Marie Dezort and the extended family of Thelma Pearson  
*Cards may be sent to Dennis & Marie at home: 121 Home Ln., Landisville 17538*

## ***PROTECTION FOR MILITARY & FIRST RESPONDERS***

Doug Kautter	Chris Andrew	Evan Benedict	Justin Gorlaski
Christopher Wright	Thom Whitesel	Corey Landis (Nephew of Jesse & Pat Landis)	

Benjamin Hansen (Grandson of Al & Connie Alsedek and son of Holly)  
David Adams (Son-in-law of John & Kathleen Hay; husband of Liz)

## ***WIDER CHURCH***

Masebe congregation	Konde Diocese	Stephen Herr (Bishop, LSS)
Pastor Subi Mwakitalima		Yehiel Curry (Presiding Bishop, ELCA)
Pastor Lucille ("CeCee") Mills (Secretary, ELCA)		
Geoffrey Samuel Mwaihaba (Bishop, Konde Diocese)		
Imran M. Siddiqui (Vice President of the ELCA)		

## ***CELEBRATING***

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

21: Todd Reed	23: Linda Bear, Don Wierschke	24: Sue Wise, Holly Hoover
25: Dave Wauls	27: Connor Donnan	28: Deb Grube, Judy Brady

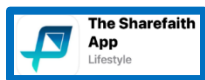
## MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministers  
Pastor  
Music Director  
Parish Administrator  
Lay Ministry Assistant  
Council President  
Council Vice President  
Sexton

Members of the Congregation  
Rev. Timothy Seitz-Brown  
John Landis  
Anne Rankin  
Diane Gerlach  
Kim Paternoster  
Denise Haun  
Tom Miller

## WORSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOL, & CONTACT INFORMATION

Worship	Sundays @ 9:00 a.m.
Livestream Link:	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy_3AeK_pExuVhcUfI2cSw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIy_3AeK_pExuVhcUfI2cSw</a>
Christmas Trivia	12/21 @ 10:30 a.m. (instead of adult classes)
Bible Study Class (Parlor)	Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.
Wired Word Class (Zoom)	Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.
Children's Class Sundays:	Start in service, then excused until communion
Morning Bible Study	Tuesdays @ 9:00 a.m.
Church Office	717-898-2911
Pastor	717-332-4216
Parish Administrator	717-945-4585
Council President	717-342-3796
Office Email	<a href="mailto:adminzelc@comcast.net">adminzelc@comcast.net</a>
Pastor Email	<a href="mailto:zion1517pastor@gmail.com">zion1517pastor@gmail.com</a>
Council President Email	<a href="mailto:krpkc@aol.com">krpkc@aol.com</a>
Music Director Email	<a href="mailto:johnplandis@gmail.com">johnplandis@gmail.com</a>
Website	<a href="https://www.zionhempfield.net/">https://www.zionhempfield.net/</a>
Mobile App	<a href="https://apps.apple.com/app/id1067488739">https://apps.apple.com/app/id1067488739</a>
Facebook	Zion Lutheran Hempfield
Church Address	85 E. Brandt Blvd. Landisville, PA 17538
Office Address	75 E. Brandt Blvd. Landisville, PA 17538
Online Giving	<a href="https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZM24/home">https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZM24/home</a>



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*\* The Rev. Dr. Mark Oldenburg (retired) from ULS/Gettysburg Seminary: author of the reading introductions*