

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

9:00 am Sunday, December 25, 2022

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who **believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them**, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

✠ = *appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross*
When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

[Rise] **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

Processional Hymn Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful Burgundy Hymn 379

[Be Seated]

Kyrie Kyrie! God, Father Organ setting by J. Pachelbel

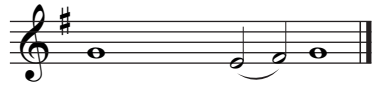
[*Kyrie! God, Father in heav'n above, You abound in gracious love, Of all things the maker and preserver.
Eleison! Eleison!]*

[Rise]

Gloria in Excelsis Hark! the Herald Angels Sing Burgundy Hymn 380

Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

Collect for Christmas Day: *Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A ——— men!

[Be Seated]

+ The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

[*After the reading] This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Gradual Hymn Rejoice, Rejoice Burgundy Hymn 391

Epistle of the Day Hebrews 1:1-12

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* Thanks be to God.

[Rise and face the Processional Cross for the Gospel Procession.]

Alleluia Sequence Oh, Rejoice, Ye Christians Burgundy Hymn 897

[Sing the Twelve-fold Alleluia below and stanzas 1 & 2 BEFORE the Gospel.

Stanzas 3 & 4 will be sung after the Gospel is proclaimed.]

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Holy Gospel St. John 1:1-18

[The Gospel is announced.]

[The Gospel is proclaimed.]

Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!

Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Hymn Oh, Rejoice, Ye Christians Burgundy Hymn 897

[Sing stanzas 3 & 4. After singing stanza 4, sing the Twelve-fold Alleluia below.]

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Confession of Faith (The Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

[Bow] And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen!

[Be Seated]

Hymn of the Day **Of the Father's Heart Begotten**

Words by Prudentius (c. 348–413)

Melody from *Piae Cantiones* (1582)



[Choir] 1. Of the Fa - ther's heart be - got - ten,
 [Choir] 2. By his word was all cre - a - ted;
 [All] 3. He as - sumed this mor - tal bo - dy,
 [Women] 4. O how blest that won - drous birth - day,
 [Men] 5. This is he, whom seer and sy - bil
 [All] 6. Sing ye heights of heav'n, his prais - es;



Ere the world from cha - os rose, He is
 He com - mand - ed and 'twas done; Earth and
 Frail and fee - ble, doomed to die, That the
 When the Maid the curse re - trieved, Brought to
 Sang in a - ges long gone by; This is
 An - gels and arch - an - gels, sing! Where - so -



Al - pha: from that Foun - tain All that
 sky and bound - less o - cean, U - ni -
 race from dust cre - a - ted Might not
 birth man - kind's sal - va - tion, By the
 he of old re - veal - ed In the
 e'er ye be, ye faith - ful, Let your



is and hath been flows; He is O - me -
 verse of three in one, All that sees the
 pe - rish ut - ter - ly, Which the dread - ful
 Ho - ly Ghost con - ceived; And the Babe, the
 page of pro - phe - cy; Lo! he comes, the
 joy - ous an - thems ring, Ev' - ry tongue his



ga, of all things Yet to come the
 moon's soft ra - dian - ce, All that breathes be -
 Law had sen - tenced In the depths of
 world's Re - deem - er, In her lov - ing
 pro - mised Sa - viour; Let the world his
 name con - fess - ing, Count - less voi - ces



mys - tic Close, Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 neath the sun, Ev - er - more and ev - e - more.
 hell to lie, Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 arms re - ceived, Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 prais - es cry! Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 an - swer - ing, Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Sermon

[Rise] + **The Office of Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution** +

Having heard the Word of God, and as we prepare for the great gift of the Holy Sacrament of Christ's body and blood, let us confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness.

[Kneel]

Our help is in the name of the Lord Who made heaven and earth. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord. And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

[Rise] **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs: [After each petition]:..., Lord, in Your mercy: Hear our prayer. [After the final prayer]:..., one God, now and forever Amen.

[Be Seated] **Offerings**

Choral Voluntary **Psalm 117** **G. P. Telemann**

[Praise the Lord, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!]

[Rise] **Offertory Hymn** **Break Forth** **Burgundy Hymn 378: St 1**

[Sing stanza 1 only.]

+ **The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar** +

Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



And with thy spir - it.



We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface for Christmas

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:

Sanctus Hymn **Let All Mortal Flesh** **Burgundy Hymn 621**

[Choir alone sings stanza 1; Men alone sing stanza 2; Women alone sing stanza 3; All sing stanza 4.]

[Kneel] **Lord's Prayer**

[Pastor chants:] *Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.*

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo - ry for -
ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

A - men.

Agnus Dei

1-3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world,
Stanzas 1 and 2 | Stanza 3
have mer-cy up - on us. Grant us Thy Peace. A - - - men!

[Be Seated]

- Distribution Hymns** **Now Sing We** **Burgundy Hymn 386**
Gentle Mary Laid Her Child **Burgundy Hymn 374**
Angels From the Realms **Burgundy Hymn 367**
 [Rise for stanza 5.]

Eucharistic Benediction

The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ✠ Depart in Peace! Amen!

Post-Communion Canticle **The Nunc Dimittis**

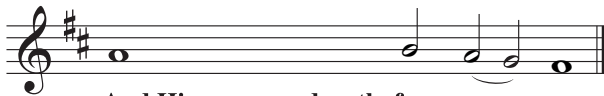
1. Lord now— lettest Thou Thy
servant, de- part— in — peace, ac- cord- ing to Thy Word.
 2. For mine__ eyes have seen
Thy Salvation,
which Thou hast pre- pared__ be— fore the face of all__ people.
 3. a Light to light- en the Gen- tiles and the Glo- ry of Thy peo- ple Is - - - ra- el.
 4. Glo— ry__ be to the
Father, and to__ the __ Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.



5. As it was in the beginning, is now, and e-ver shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post Communion Rite

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



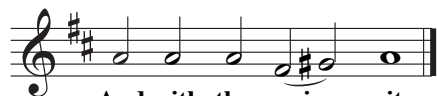
And His mercy endureth for — ev — er.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... one God, now and forever.



A — men.

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir — rit.

Bless we the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



A-men, A-men, A - men.

During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in the world in His name.

Recessional Hymn Joy to the World Burgundy Hymn 387

Postlude From Heaven Above J. S. Bach



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Readings for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

The Old Testament Reading is Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God."

The Epistle is Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,
"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire."

But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,

the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.
You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment,
like a robe you will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.
But you are the same, and your years will have no end.”

The Gospel is John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Hymns for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord

LSB379 O Come All Ye Faithful

John F. Wade

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!

2. Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*
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*

LSB380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain*
3. Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. *Refrain*

LSB391 Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn

Birgitte Katerine Boye.

1. Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn, A Savior unto us is born,
The Christ, the Lord of glory!
His lowly birth in Bethlehem The angels from on high proclaim
And sing redemption's story!
My soul, extol God's great favor; Bless Him ever For salvation;
Give Him praise and adoration!"

LSB897 O Rejoice, Ye Christians Loudly

Christian Keimann

Twelvefold Alleluia: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. O rejoice, ye Christians, loudly, For our joy has now begun;
Wondrous things our God has done.
Tell abroad his goodness proudly, Who our race has honored thus,
That He deigns to dwell with us.

Refrain: Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness, Christ has done away with sadness!
Hence, all sorrow and repining, For the Sun of Grace is shining!

2. See, my soul, thy Savior chooses Weakness here and poverty;
In such love He comes to thee.
Neither crib nor cross refuses; All He suffers for thy good
To redeem thee by His blood. *Refrain*

The Reading of the Holy Gospel

3. Lord, how shall I thank Thee rightly? I acknowledge that by Thee
I am saved eternally.
Let me not forget it lightly, But to Thee at all times cleave
And my heart true peace receive. *Refrain*
4. Jesus, guard and guide Thy members, Fill them with Thy boundless grace,
Hear their prayers in ev'ry place.
Fan to flame faith's glowing embers; Grant all Christians, far and near,
Holy peace, a glad new year! *Refrain* then *Twelvefold Alleluia*

Of the Father's Heart Begotten

Prudentius

Printed in Service Bulletin

LSB378 Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Johann Rist

1. Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light, And usher in the morning.
Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, The day of grace is dawning.
This Child, though weak in infancy, Our confidence and joy shall be,
The pow'r of Satan breaking, Our peace with God now making.

LSB621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.

- Choir
only
1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending Comes our homage to demand.
 - M 2. King of kings yet born of Mary, As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.
 - W 3. Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light descending From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish As the darkness clears away.
 4. At His feet the six-winged seraph, Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence As with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

LSB386 Now Sing We, Now RejoiceLatin and German, 14th cent.

1. Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!
2. Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;
Through Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!
3. Now through His Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.
Death was reigning o'er us Through sin and vanity
Till He opened for us A bright eternity.
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!
4. Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light,
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

LSB374 Gentle Mary Laid her Child

Joseph Simpson Cook

1. Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undefined, To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His favor.
2. Angels sang about His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ringing.
3. Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!

LSB367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

James Montgomery

1. Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth:
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines His Infant Light. *Refrain*

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star. *Refrain*

4. Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear. *Refrain*

- △5. All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son.
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

LSB387 Joy to the World

Isaac Watts

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King:
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love.

The Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Day



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

2313 Hanna Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 | 260-744-1389

pastor@zionfw.org, church@zionfw.org | website: www.zionfw.org

Zion Lutheran Church is the body of Christ at Hanna and Creighton in Fort Wayne, Indiana that:

- Receives Christ's gifts in Word and Sacraments; and
- Responds to God's love in Christ by
 - Reaching out to those who do not know His love; and
 - Revealing His love in acts of kindness and mercy.

The Pastoral Ministry At Zion

Senior Pastor: Rev. Douglas D. Punke, MDiv (341-5397)
Field Workers: Peter Wagner, Patrick Jackson, Paul Mroczenski

The Teaching Staff At Lutheran South Unity

Principal: Amber Bahr (744-0459)
Teachers: Yvonne Schwantz (8th), Abigail DeForest (6th), Anyssa Scaer (MS History), Allison Wims (K-8 Technology & MS Health), Marcus Rush (MS PE), Danielle Ramsey (5th), Meredith Tourney (4th), Abbey Zelt (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Maresh (1st), Abby Springer (K), Natalie Reynolds (Art & Music)

The Support Staff

Organist and Director of Parish Music: Michael Hollman, MM
Church Office Manager: Melvia Culpher

PRAYERS FOR TODAY

- + For the church, especially those bearing the cross of persecution
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our fieldworkers Patrick Jackson and Paul Mroczenski
- + For our nation; for our leaders, our military, including James Hall, especially at this perilous time in our world
- + For our schools, especially Lutheran South Unity School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Concordia Theological Seminary
- + For those who travel
- + For the aged and the homebound, including Everett Beck and Doris Yerger
- + For those who are nearing death, including Willie Manning
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Marilyn Shafter, John Starks, Dwight Bieberich, Debra Busche, Bill Weinrich, Paul Dolde, Willodean Bates, Gloria Gonzalez, Dick Hollman, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Louise Petrillo, Ron Rastl, Marlow Hogan, Gregory Hogan, and Jenny Hobby
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones, especially the families of Pastor Schaibley and Pastor Spira
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Pastors Schaibley and Spira
- + For our communicants and for a fruitful use of the most Blessed Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood

IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Today is the Divine Service for the Nativity of Our Lord. Please complete an attendance/communion card, including the names of all children, and indicate if you are communing. Non-members, please read the back of the card.

CALENDAR

December 25, 2022 thru December 31, 2022

SUN.	8:45 AM	Pre Service Instrumental and Choral Music	Church
	9:00 AM	Festival Divine Service — Nativity	Church
MON.		Church Office closed	
TUES.	12 NOON	Admin Council Meeting	Conference Room
WED.	5:30 PM	Wednesday Divine Service	Church
THURS.			
FRI.			
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church

January 1, 2023 New Year's Day

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:30 AM	8 th Day of Christmas Party	Bauer Hall

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO EDUCATION HOUR on Christmas Day. Nor will we hold Sunday School or Bible Class next Sunday, New Years Day. It will resume on January 8, 2023. On the other hand, we will hold our 8th Day of Christmas party after Divine Service next Sunday (January 1). Plan to stay and bring some Christmas goodies and sweet bread to share. We'll have some games and sing some Christmas carols — not all sacred.

GIVING STATEMENTS will be ready on January 8th. If you do not pick them up by Sunday, January 22nd, they will be mailed to your home. If any of your contact information has changed, please let Melvia in the office know.

OUR ENVELOPES: Our contribution envelope provider has had several problems that have delayed their customers' envelope printing and shipping. (They have not done a good job of keeping us informed.) They hope to have them all out by the second week of January. Until then, please feel free to use the envelopes in the pew rack, but **please** mark them as general fund and put your name on them so that your offering can be recorded. We plan to enclose two envelopes in the January Voice for your use as well. Thank you for your patience.

THANKS to everyone who helped prepare and serve Advent suppers.

SAVE THE DATE: January 29, 2023, right after Divine Service, we will have a Congregational Assembly in Bauer Hall. It will include congregational input on our Ministry Clarity. We will be serving brunch. We need your attendance.

NO NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE this year. New Year's Day is a Sunday, and we'll have a Divine Service on January 1, 2023. Remember, our 8th Day of Christmas party will follow.

PASTOR ROBERT SCHAIBLEY was Senior Pastor at Zion from 1986 to 1995. The funeral will be on Wednesday, December 28, at Faith Lutheran Church and School in Plano, Texas. Mike is flying down to Texas to play for the funeral. As with all the saints who die in the Lord, we rejoice that Pastor Schaibley has realized his victory, but we grieve with the family.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2 PM is Zion's hour to host the Prayer Room on the Electric Works campus. It's at 1626 Broadway St, Suite 135. The Prayer Room is intended to be "a tangible expression of unity, hosted by individuals [Christians], [Christian] churches, and [Christian] ministries of all denominations. Agreement with the Apostles' Creed, naming the basics of historic Christian faith, will serve as the common bond." That was important to me that we might participate. "The prayer room is dedicated exclusively for prayer and prayer in the form of worship" (worship is only at specified times). "Hosts of the prayer room have two primary responsibilities: to pray, and to welcome those who come to pray." Quotes from *24/7 Prayer Room Hosting Instructions*. More next week.

PLEASE CONTINUE to support the Cup of Kindness during the Christmas season. Cup of Kindness is a ministry of Lutheran Social Services that provides "a connection to the hope that lies in Christ." You'll find the "Cup" on the table in the narthex. Dave will get the donations to LSSI.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Luke 2:10-11—"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born is this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.'" Last week's verse was Genesis 3:15.

RIGHT TO LIFE OF NORTHEAST INDIANA is signing people up to go to Washington D.C. for the National March for Life. Visit www.ichooselife.org/lddc to register for the Life Defenders Bus trip; or visit www.ichooselife.org/nationalmarch to register for the Family trip. You can also call RLNI at 260-471-1849.

CLHS is seeking an English teacher, a Physical Education teacher, and an LROTC Instructor. To view the position description and responsibilities and to apply, please visit www.clhscadets.com/employment. Only applications with all materials, including the completed application, will be considered. And the ROTC Army Instructor Application and Certification link is: www.usarmyjrotc.com/application-certification/.

SACRED MUSIC FROM LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO: If you're tired of listening to the endless loop of Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You," you can listen to sacred music for the season 24/7 by going to issuesetc.org/lutheran-public-radio-music/ and clicking on the "Click here to listen to our Sacred Music stream" link.

For the family of God’s Priestly People at Zion

God calls His own people a “Royal Priesthood.” God makes us kings and queens, princes and princesses who are bound together by the Holy Spirit in Baptism for the Christian benefit of each other. Priests **PRAY** -- They talk to God about their neighbor! Priests **TEACH** -- They talk to their neighbor about God! Priests **OFFER SACRIFICES** -- They offer to God the sacrifice of broken and contrite hearts; they offer their bodies and work as holy services to God for their neighbors. Join in this priestly work of prayer with your fellow members.

Morning Prayer

DAILY LECTIONARY

Evening Prayer

John 1:1-18

The Nativity of Our Lord

Isaiah 52:7-10

Matthew 1:18-25

Monday

Isaiah 49:22-26; 50:4–51:8, 12-16

Matthew 2:1-12

Tuesday

Isaiah 51:17–52:12

Matthew 2:13-23

Wednesday

Isaiah 52:13–54:10

Luke 1:1-25

Thursday

Isaiah 55:1-13

Luke 1:26-38

Friday

Isaiah 58:1–59:3, 14-21

Luke 1:39-56

Saturday

Isaiah 60:1-22

THE DAILY PETITIONS OF THE CHURCH

[Daily] **O Lord, have mercy upon us. O Christ, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy upon us.** Let us pray:

[S] For the joy of the Resurrection among us; for true and godly worship throughout the world; for diligent preaching and hearing of God’s Word of Law and Gospel; for our pastors; for the teachers and students of our Sunday School; for our Bible Class leaders and their students; for our catechumens; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[M] For workers; for the unemployed; for farmers; for seasonable weather; for businesses small and large; for our leaders, federal, state and local; for the economic welfare of the nations on earth; for peace in our world; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the tempted; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for the lonely; for the sick, the hospitalized, and the needy; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[W] For fathers, mothers, and families; for those adults who must rear their children alone; the teachers and students of Lutheran South Unity School and Concordia Lutheran High School; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[T] For the Church and her pastors; for the training of ministers of the Word; for missionaries of the Church; for the leaders of the Church, including Matthew, our synod president, and Richard, our district president; for those who have not heard the Gospel; for the fruitful use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord’s Body and Blood; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[F] For the preaching of the Cross; for those persecuted for the sake of Gospel; the confession of the orthodox Lutheran faith in our community; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Sat] For faithfulness unto life’s earthly end; for the revival of those who have withered in the faith or fallen away; for the dying; Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen!**

[Daily]

The Our Father

TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus

Numbers 6:22-27

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 2:21



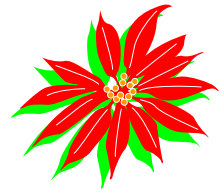
What Doctor Luther Says:

About the Concrete Reality of Christ's Incarnation

The heretical Manichaeans, knaves that they were, took offense at the assertion that the Son of God had become man. To embellish their error, they feigned great saintliness and profound wisdom, saying that it was an insult to the divine majesty to claim that He had been born from poor and sin-corrupted, impure and mortal flesh, and from the flesh of a woman at that. They protested that it was impossible that the divine purity, which exceeds the brightness of the sun, should submerge itself into this vile slime. Therefore they averred that Mary was not the true, natural, and physical mother of Christ. ... [T]hey claimed, a shadow or phantom passed through Mary, like a ghost that has no real body or soul. They claimed that Christ had only resembled a man, but, in reality, was no true human. Thus they reduced Him to a ghost; this implies, of course, that the Jews crucified an incorporeal phantom. In this way they tried to make their heresy palatable. ...

But we believe the Scriptures and confess with holy Christendom, which existed at all times and will endure till the end of the world, that this article of our holy Christian creed, together with all others, is firmly and solidly established by the testimony of the holy prophets and apostles, the spokesmen of the Holy Spirit: that Christ, our Lord and God, assumed true human nature, not the nature of an immaterial phantom, and that He became a natural man like any other man of flesh and blood. He did not flutter about like a spirit, but He dwelt among men. He had eyes, ears, mouth, nose, chest, stomach, hands, and feet, just as you and I do. He took the breast. His mother nursed Him as any other child is nursed. He acted as any other human does. He was born as a true man from the Virgin Mary; the one difference, however, was that He was not born in sin as we are, that "He committed no sin, and no guile was found on His lips" (Is. 53:9; 1 Peter 2:22).

Luther's Works, 22:112-13.



In loving memory of our beloved parents Carl & Myrtle Albersmeyer,
Byrle & Joyce Greenamyer
by Carl & Rosie Albersmeyer and families

In loving memory of our parents
Paul & Esther Bieberich and David & Agnes Shutt
by Don & Beth Bieberich

In memory of Donald Ganaway
by Julie Ganaway

In honor of our beloved grandparents Shirley and Stanley Goeglein
by Tim and Paul Goeglein along with their loving grandchildren

To the Glory of Christ
by Ed & Janice Grim

In loving memory of our mother Virginia Hollman
by Mark & Beth Hollman

In loving memory of my beloved wife of 63 years Virginia Hollman
by Richard Hollman

Dedicated to Jayden Jackson and Carter Brown
by Alanza Jackson

In loving memory of Sprio & Anne Kostoff and Karen Kostoff Wood
by Karl Kostoff, Judy & Martin Thomas

To Honor the Christ Child
by Rev. George & Lois Lange

In loving memory of Dr. Robert & Katherine Leininger
and Fred, Betty, John, & Teresa Beckman
by Kevin & Maribeth Leininger



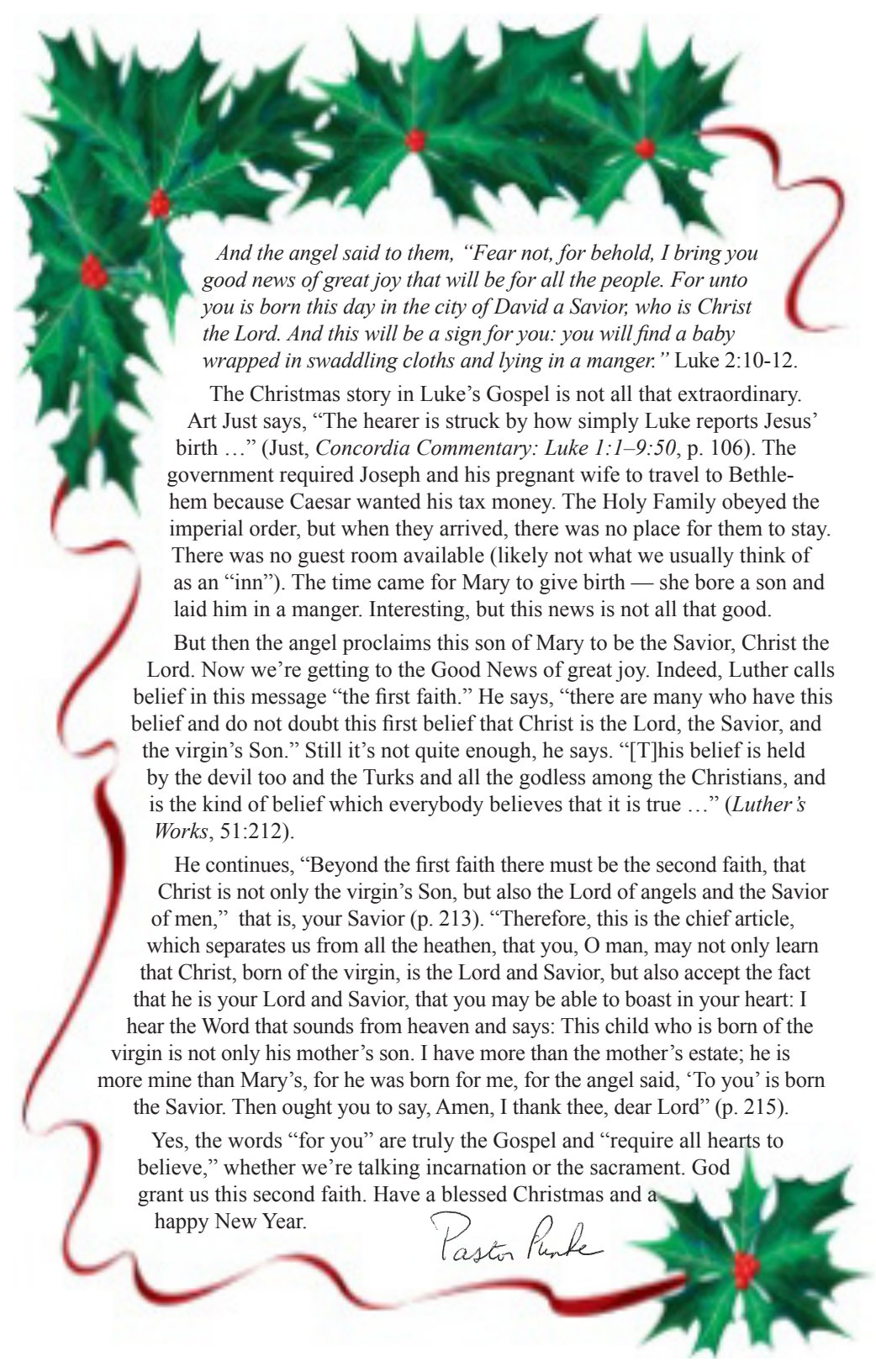
In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Manth
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Manth
Mr. & Mrs. Ferdinand Bornkamp
and Mrs. Clara Tegtmeyer
by Jennifer Manth

Honoring on bended knee the coming of the Word made flesh.
by Pastor & Marge Punke

In loving memory of David & Savannah Stokes, Sister Aritis Barksdale
and Brother Henry Chapman
by Clarence "Bo" Stokes

To the Glory of our new born Savior
by Jim and Judy Voelz

Thanks to God for sending us our Savior.
"O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!"
by André Woodard



And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12.

The Christmas story in Luke's Gospel is not all that extraordinary. Art Just says, "The hearer is struck by how simply Luke reports Jesus' birth ..." (Just, *Concordia Commentary: Luke 1:1-9:50*, p. 106). The government required Joseph and his pregnant wife to travel to Bethlehem because Caesar wanted his tax money. The Holy Family obeyed the imperial order, but when they arrived, there was no place for them to stay. There was no guest room available (likely not what we usually think of as an "inn"). The time came for Mary to give birth — she bore a son and laid him in a manger. Interesting, but this news is not all that good.

But then the angel proclaims this son of Mary to be the Savior, Christ the Lord. Now we're getting to the Good News of great joy. Indeed, Luther calls belief in this message "the first faith." He says, "there are many who have this belief and do not doubt this first belief that Christ is the Lord, the Savior, and the virgin's Son." Still it's not quite enough, he says. "[T]his belief is held by the devil too and the Turks and all the godless among the Christians, and is the kind of belief which everybody believes that it is true ..." (*Luther's Works*, 51:212).

He continues, "Beyond the first faith there must be the second faith, that Christ is not only the virgin's Son, but also the Lord of angels and the Savior of men," that is, your Savior (p. 213). "Therefore, this is the chief article, which separates us from all the heathen, that you, O man, may not only learn that Christ, born of the virgin, is the Lord and Savior, but also accept the fact that he is your Lord and Savior, that you may be able to boast in your heart: I hear the Word that sounds from heaven and says: This child who is born of the virgin is not only his mother's son. I have more than the mother's estate; he is more mine than Mary's, for he was born for me, for the angel said, 'To you' is born the Savior. Then ought you to say, Amen, I thank thee, dear Lord" (p. 215).

Yes, the words "for you" are truly the Gospel and "require all hearts to believe," whether we're talking incarnation or the sacrament. God grant us this second faith. Have a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year.

Pastor Pinke





ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL/ ACADEMY

ALL CLASS REUNION

SAVE THE DATES

JUNE 9-11, 2023

More details to come

2313 S. Hanna St.

Fort Wayne, IN 46803

