

DIVINE SERVICE FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

- (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.

✝ = appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross
When “rise” or “kneel” is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

+ Page 1 +

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Fort Wayne, Indiana

The Office of
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
The Lutheran Formula of 1526

Lucy Ann Wessel

*Daughter of Benjamin Edward
and Jennifer Ann Wessel
Born December 1, 2025*

*Reborn into Christ this Second Sunday in Advent
December 7, 2025*

Sponsors: Zachary and Haley Wessel

LSB406 To Jordan Came the Christ

Martin Luther

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5. To His disciples spoke the Lord, “Go out to ev’ry nation,
And bring to them the Living Word And this My invitation:
Let ev’ryone abandon sin And come in true contrition
To be baptized and thereby win Full pardon and remission
And heav’nly bliss inherit.”
7. All that the mortal eye beholds Is water as we pour it.
Before the eye of faith unfolds The pow’r of Jesus’ merit.
For here it sees the crimson flood To all our ills bring healing;
The wonders of His precious blood The love of God revealing,
Assuring his own pardon.

MARTIN LUTHER’S ADMONITION TO THE BAPTISMAL PARTY AND THE CONGREGATION

“In all Christian earnestness I would ask all those who administer baptism, who hold the children, or witness it, to take this wonderful work to heart in all its seriousness. For here, in the words of these prayers, you hear how meekly and earnestly the Christian church concerns herself about the little child and how he confesses before God in plain undoubting words that he is possessed by the devil and is a child of sin and wrath, and prays very diligently for aid and grace through baptism that he becomes a child of God. Remember, therefore, that it is no joke to take sides against the devil and not only to drive him away from the little child, but to burden the child with such a mighty and lifelong enemy. Remember, too, that it is very necessary to aid the poor child with all your heart and strong faith, earnestly to intercede for him that God, in accordance with this prayer, would not only free him from the power of the devil, but also strengthen him, so that he may nobly resist the devil in life and death.

I suspect that people turn out so badly after baptism because our concern for them has been so cold and careless; we, at their baptism, interceded for them without zeal. . . . See to it, therefore, that you are present in true faith, listen to God’s Word, and earnestly join in prayer. For when the pastor says, “Let us pray,” he is exhorting you to unite with him in prayer. And all sponsors and the others present should repeat with him the words of his prayer in their hearts to God, . . . carrying the little child’s need before God most earnestly, setting themselves against the devil with all their strength on behalf of the child, and showing that they realize this is no joke as far as the devil is concerned. For this reason it is right and proper . . . to treat the matter with seriousness and true faith, lest the holy sacrament be made a mockery for the devil and an insult to God, who through it showers us with the abundant and infinite riches of his grace. He himself calls it a new birth by which we are being freed from all the devil’s tyranny, loosed from sin, death, and hell, and become children of life, heirs of all the gifts of God, God’s own children, and brethren of Christ.

Ah, dear Christians, let us not value and administer this unspeakable gift so indolently and indifferently; for baptism is our only comfort and admits to every blessing of God and to the communion of all the saints. To this may God help us! Amen!”

+ THE OFFICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

[*The baptismal party gathers at the baptismal font
during the Processional Hymn*]

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

+ THE EXORCISM +

[The Lutheran Church retained The Exorcism from the historic baptismal rite because of the Biblical doctrine of original sin. “It is taught among us that since the fall of Adam all men who are born according to the course of nature are conceived and born in sin. That is, all men are full of evil lust and inclinations from their mothers’ wombs and are unable by nature to have true fear of God and true faith in God.”]

[*To the candidate*]

*Depart O unclean spirit and make room for the Holy Spirit!
Receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your mind ✠ and
upon your heart ✠ to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the
crucified. Amen!*

[To the congregation]

*Let us pray: O Almighty eternal God, who according to Your righteous judgment did condemn the unbelieving world through the flood; and in your great mercy did preserve believing Noah and his family; and who did drown hardhearted Pharaoh with all his host in the Red Sea and did lead your people Israel through the same on dry ground, thereby prefiguring this bath of your baptism; and who through the baptism of Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has consecrated and set apart the Jordan and all water as a salutary flood and a rich and full washing away for sins: We pray through Your same boundless mercy that You will graciously behold this **Lucy Ann Wessel**, and bless her with true faith in her spirit so that by means of this saving flood all that has been born in her from Adam, and which she herself has added thereto, may be drowned in her and engulfed, and that she may be sundered from the number of the unbelieving, preserved dry and secure in the holy ark of Christendom, and serve Your name at all times fervent in spirit and joyful in hope, so that with all believers she may be made worthy to attain eternal life according to Your promise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!*

[To the candidate]

*I adjure you, O unclean spirit, by the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit ✠ that you come out of and depart from this servant of Jesus Christ, **Lucy Ann Wessel**. Amen!*

+ THE WORD OF GOD +

[God does bring blessings to those who are baptized, including infants: "It is taught among us that Baptism is necessary and that grace is offered through it. Children, too, should be baptized, for in Baptism they are committed to God and become acceptable to him."]

The Holy Gospel of St. Mark Glory be to You, O Lord!

And they were bringing children to [Jesus] that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them. [Mark 10:13-16].

This is the Gospel of the Lord! Praise be to You, O Christ!

+ THE OUR FATHER and THE BLESSING +

[In Holy Baptism, God is at work. It is a Sacrament, a divine activity, through which He gives His blessing: "Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word."]

[We pray together for God's blessing on the candidates]

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. Amen!

[To the candidate]

The Lord preserve your going out and coming in now and forevermore. Amen!

+ THE CONFESSION OF THE FAITH +

[Baptism is based on the command and promise of Christ, who causes Baptism to bring saving grace to the candidates by the power of the Word: "It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare."]

[*To the witnesses, the parents, and the congregation*]

Because this candidate cannot answer for herself, we shall all, together with witnesses and parents, speak in testimony of the forgiveness of sin and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows upon this candidate in and through Baptism:

Do you renounce the devil? I do renounce him!
and all his works? I do renounce them!
and all his ways? I do renounce them!

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Do you desire to be a baptized and forgiven person? I do!

+ THE BAPTISM IN THE NAME OF THE HOLY TRINITY +

[Through Holy Baptism poor sinners are adopted into God's family in the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit: "Without God's Word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the Word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit."]

Lucy Ann Wessel, I baptize you in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Amen!

[*To the newly baptized and all the baptized here present*]

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you new birth through water and the Holy Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting! Amen!

Peace be with you! Amen!

[*The baptismal party returns to the pews*]

+ A FINAL NOTE FOR BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS +

"What does such baptizing with water indicate? It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

[Explanatory notes contain quotations from two primary statements of what Lutherans believe, teach and, confess: The Augsburg Confession, and Luther's Small Catechism.]

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have
mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

And with thy spir— it.

A ————— men!

A—men!

+ Page 2 +


[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, Voluntary**

[Rise] **Offertory Hymn Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres- ence, and
take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of
Thy sal-va - tion; and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

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

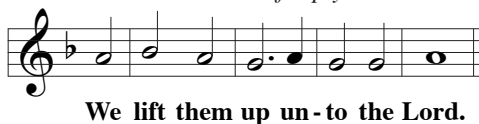
Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



And with thy spir-it.



We lift them up un-to the Lord.

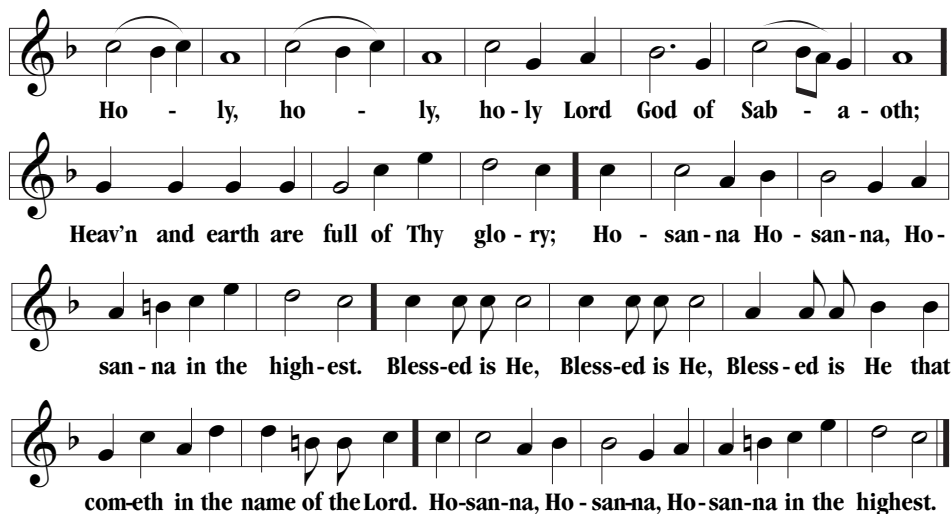
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

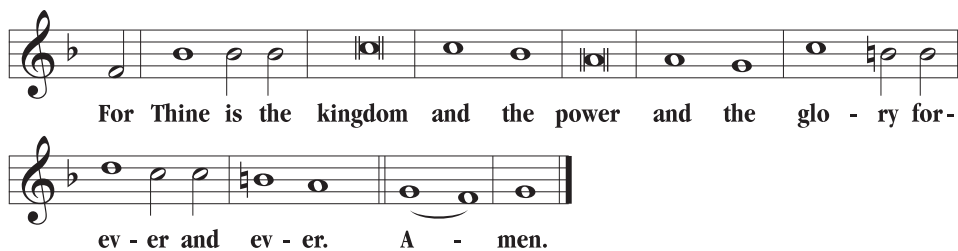
Proper Preface for Advent, Sanctus

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry; Ho - san-na Ho - san-na, Ho -
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He that
com-eth in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na, Ho - san-na, Ho-san-na in the highest.

[Kneel] **Lord's Prayer** [Pastor chants:] *Our Father who art ... but deliver us from evil.*

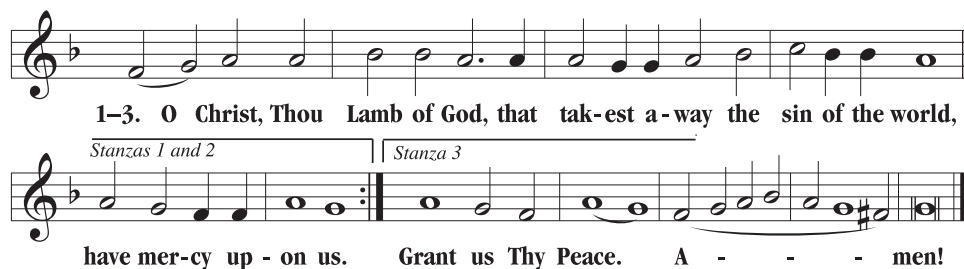


Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!



Agnus Dei



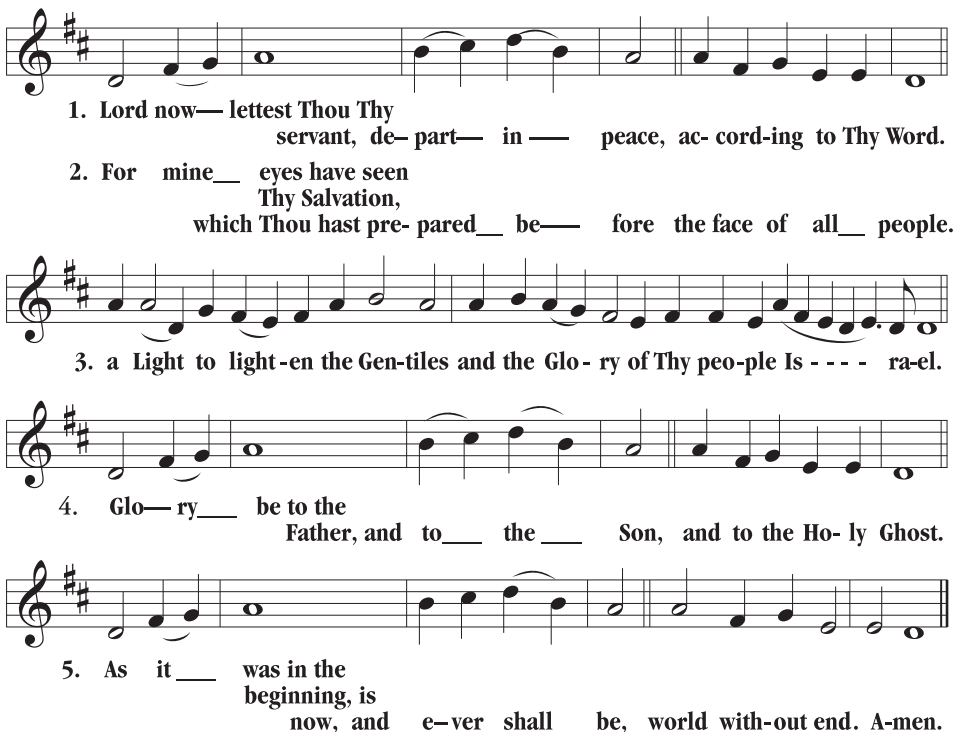
[Be Seated]

Distribution Hymns **Comfort, Comfort These** **Burgundy Hymn 347**
What Hope! **Burgundy Hymn 342**

[Rise] Eucharistic Benediction

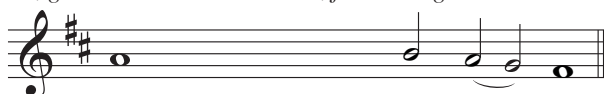
The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ✠ Depart in Peace! Amen!

Post-Communion Canticle The Nunc Dimittis



Post Communion Rite

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



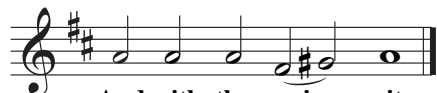
And His mercy endureth for — ev — er.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... 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 Lift Up Your Heads Burgundy Hymn 340

Postlude

Oh, Rejoice, All Christians, Loudly!

**Come join us at Zion Lutheran Church
as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.**

- Advent Services, Wednesdays at 7pm
- Christmas Eve Candelight Service of Lessons and Carols
Featuring Choir, Brass, and Organ
Prelude begins at 6:30pm • Service begins at 7pm
- Christmas Day Festival Service
Featuring Choir, Brass, and Organ
Prelude begins at 8:45am • Service begins at 9am



2313 South Hanna Street at Creighton

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Readings for the Second Sunday in Advent

The Old Testament Reading is Isaiah 11:1-10

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

The Epistle is Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify

the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

The Gospel is St. Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Hymns for the Second Sunday in Advent

LSB406 To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord

Martin Luther

See the Service Bulletin (stanzas 5 & 7)

LSB344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Charles Coffin

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!
2. Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.
3. We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord, Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away Like flow'rs that wither and decay.
4. Lay on the sick Thy healing hand And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.
- △ 5. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee Whose advent sets Thy people free.
Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Spirit evermore.

LSB347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Johann Olearius

1. "Comfort, comfort ye My people, Speak ye peace," thus saith our God;
"Comfort those who sit in darkness, Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover And her warfare now is over."
2. Yea, her sins our God will pardon, Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day, Now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness Into ever-springing gladness.
3. Hark, the herald's voice is crying In the desert far and near,
Calling sinners to repentance, Since the Kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
4. Make ye straight what long was crooked; Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token That His Word is never broken.

LSB342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

Stephen P. Starke

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1. What hope! An Eden prophesied Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side, Led by a little child!
2. A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem, A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem: The fruit of God's design.
3. As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world Would rally to the cross.
4. Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword — Come, open heaven's door.

LSB340 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates

Georg Weissel

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.
2. A righteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness, His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.
3. How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless sun of joy is He Who comes to set His people free.
To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.
4. Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov'reign enter in And new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!
5. Redeemer, come and open wide My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine; Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame We offer to Thy name.

The Second Sunday in Advent



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:

Nathaniel Demlow, Joshua Fuchs

The Teaching Staff at Lutheran South Unity

Principal:

Amber Bahr (744-0459; www.lsusfw.org)

Teachers:

Yvonne Schwantz (8th, MS ELA), Michael Cullen (7th, MS Science),

Chase Mertz (6th, MS Social Studies), Danielle Ramsey (5th), Abbey Kohler (4th),

Rachel Wiegman (3rd), John Fink (2nd), Hannah Fink (1st), Michelle Madden (K),

Natalie Reynolds (Art), Elisa Sawall (Music), Lee Buxton (PE), Cathie Wakeland (Literacy Coach),

Arianna Blake (LSEM), Melissa White (FWCS) & Sarah Wheaton (EACS) (Title I Tutors)

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, including Bishop Juhana Pohjola and Dr. Päivi Räsänen (case being decided by the Finnish Supreme Court)
- + For those who serve our Lord at home and abroad, especially our teachers as they start of another academic year, our fieldworkers Nate Demlow and Josh Fuchs
- + For our nation; for our leaders; for our military, including James Hall & Thaddeus Cody
- + 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
- + For those who are on hospice care or nearing death, especially Bob Ockree
- + For the ill, distressed, and those suffering affliction, including Estella Ramirez, Darryl Kirtz, Dick Hollman, Art Litke, Henry Williams, Debra Busche, Carl Albersmeyer, Connie Houser, Bill Weinrich, Dwight Bieberich, Al McFeter, Mike Ming, Earl Marcel Sisson, Elaine Seifert, Joe Harrison, Louisa Porter, Gary Phillips, David Groth, Gary Castle, Ron Rastl, Robert & Jenny Hobby
- + For God's blessing on all godly marriages
- + For the gift of life and for length of days, especially at the birth of Lucy Ann Wessel, and for pregnant mothers Hannah Fink, and Rachel Wiegman
- + For the gift of rebirth by water and the Spirit, especially Lucy Ann Wessel
- + For those who mourn the death of loved ones
- + In remembrance of the faithful departed, including Vanessa Smith and Bill Wallschlaeger
- + 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 Second Sunday in Advent. The Cross Bowl is given loving memory of Vanessa Smith by DaVanna & David Seifert and family. The Altar Vases are given by Carolyn Wallschlaeger in memory of Bill and their wedding at Zion on December 5, 1964. 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 7, 2025 thru December 13, 2025

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Lutheran Identity study	Bauer Hall
	1:30 PM	LWML Advent Tea	Bethlehem
	4:00 PM	New Millennium Jazz Orchestra	Church
MON.			
TUES.	9:00 AM	Weekday Bible Study	Bauer Hall
	9:30 AM	Ft. Wayne South Circuit Winkel	TBD
WED.	5:45 PM	Advent Supper	Bauer Hall
	7:00 PM	Advent Evening Prayer	Church
THURS.			
FRI.			
SAT.	11:00 AM	Private Confession	Church

December 14, 2025

SUN.	9:00 AM	Divine Service	Church
	10:45 AM	Education Hour	Various
	4:00 PM	CLHS's Christmas at the Embassy	Embassy Theatre

ZION ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION HOUR: Dr. Voelz is gone for a couple weeks. Sem. Josh Fuchs will lead the combined class on Lutheran Identity in Bauer Hall.

WELCOME to Lucy Ann Wessel, added to the kingdom of God today by the waters of Holy Baptism. Lucy was born on December 1 to Jenny and Benjamin Wessel.

ENVELOPES are on a table in the Great Hall and are ready for pick up. Please help us save on the cost of their distribution by picking yours up.

SEMINARY FOOD CO-OP: Today is the last day to bring in food for the Food Co-op. Tell Pastor if you're still bringing something in; he can wait to make the delivery.

THE NEW MILLENNIUM JAZZ ORCHESTRA is at Zion today, 4 PM, to present their Christmas concert. The concert is free, but a free will offering will be collected.

ADVENT SUPPER AND PRAYER: Come for a light meal and for prayer this Wednesday, December 10, 5:45 PM and 7 PM. Sem. Erik Osmundson is preaching.

HELP NEEDED: If you have a couple hours to spare every couple of months, the trustees would like your assistance to keep Zion beautiful, doing light cleaning and other chores as needed. Would you consider being added to our weekend rotation schedule? Talk to Kevin Leininger for more information or call him at 615-9896. Thanks.

SHUT-IN HOLIDAY GOODIES: A list of shut-ins is included in the bulletin. If you are able to send a Christmas card to them, they will surely appreciate it. Melvia will be packing shut-in bags on Saturday, December 20th. To donate cookies or fruit, please have them to church by then.

LUTHERAN WITNESS: if you are interested in receiving the Lutheran Witness, please make a check out to Zion for \$19 (put Lutheran Witness in the memo line) before the end of the year. Also, if you would like to renew your subscription, please get your check to Melvia.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Genesis 3:15—"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." Last week's verse was Micah 7:7.

WE CAN FACE COMPETING PRIORITIES when we think about planning our estates someday. As we wrap up this yearlong consideration, we must ponder whether we see our estate plan as an expression of our Christian faith or just giving up on life. For many years, we focus on building and accumulating. Eventually, however, we must pass on financial assets to others, primarily family or ministries. If done correctly, this "passing on" is a plan for continuing the use of God's gifts, conveying His blessings. This isn't giving up at all, as we look to receive our eternal inheritance. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you gain perspective. Contact Mark Muehl at 260-241-4845 or mark.muehl@lfnf.org.

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH'S Men's Club are selling Christmas trees and wreaths again this year. The tree lot is located at the Church-School, 4245 Lake Ave. The lot is open 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturdays, and 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sundays. A selection can be made from Scotch Pine, Douglas Fir, Fraser Fir, and Blue Spruce. Decorated wreaths are also available. The proceeds from this fundraiser are used to support various projects and functions of the Concordia Church and school. Please assist us in this effort by purchasing your Christmas tree from the Concordia Men's Club. Your patronage would be greatly appreciated.

RLNI is sponsoring a trip to the National March for Life in Washington DC, January 21st-24th, 2026, open to high school and college-age students who want to grow in their understanding of the pro-life movement, explore the nation's capital, and stand with hundreds of thousands of others who believe every life deserves protection. Registration is due by December 10; sign up or learn more at ichooselife.org and click on "Upcoming Events." You can also call 260-471-1849 or email Phoebe@ichooselife.org.

COOKIE FAIR: Emmaus Lutheran will host its annual Cookie Fair on Saturday, December 13 from 9 am to Noon. Cookies and fudge will be \$9/lb. Other treats include homemade jams, kringle and Rada cutlery. Emmaus is located at 8626 Covington Road. Call the church office at 459-7722 with any questions.

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

Matthew 3:1-12

1 John 2:15-29

1 John 3:1-24

1 John 4:1-21

1 John 5:1-21

Jude 1-25

Revelation 1:1-20

DAILY LECTIONARY

The Second Sunday in Advent

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Evening Prayer

Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah 24:14-25:12

Isaiah 26:1-19

Isaiah 26:20-27:13

Isaiah 28:14-29

Isaiah 29:1-14

Isaiah 29:15-30:14

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

Third Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10

James 5:7-11

Matthew 11:2-15



What Doctor Luther Says:

About God's Work, Christ, and Grace in the Psalms

Every psalm, all Scripture, calls to grace, extols grace, searches for Christ, and praises only God's work, while rejecting all the works of man. Therefore this psalm [143] can be readily understood in the light of the foregoing, for it speaks the same language. Here one should keep in mind that this psalm has been and is spoken in the name of the whole people of Christ and of each person individually. The daily enemies of this people are the worldly-wise and the self-righteous, who do not know and refuse to know anything about the grace of God. They even imagine that no one regards God's grace more highly than they, misled as they are into the error of their blind holiness and their good intentions.

1. *Hear my prayer, O Lord.*

... St. Augustine says that faith obtains what the Law demands. Hence imploring, desiring, searching is the true essence of the inner man, as in Ps. 34:10: "Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing," and in Ps. 105:4: "Seek His presence continually." Again, Ps. 14:3 says of the proud saints: "There is none that seeks after God" – they have already found Him.

Give ear to my supplications because of Thy faith!

Not on account of the work I do, but on account of the faith Thou givest me.

Answer me in Thy righteousness.

Not on account of my righteousness, for that is sin and unrighteousness. He would say: Give me faith, and make me righteous by grace; for I see some who claim to be right and want to stand because of their own works and righteousness. Preserve me from this. They want to be something, whereas they are nothing, vain, fools, and sinners. Here it should be noted that the little words "Thy faith" and "Thy righteousness" do not refer to the faith and the righteousness with which God believes and is righteous, as some have thought, but to the grace whereby God works faith in us and makes us righteous.

Luther's Works, 14:196.



Order Your Poinsettia Plants for Christmas 2025!



PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

DEDICATION _____

___ 8 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$42 each \$ _____

___ 6 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$20 each \$ _____

___ 4 1/2 inch Poinsettia \$10 each \$ _____

___ General Donation \$ _____

___ Pick up plant after Dec 31

___ Give plant to a shut-in

Return this form to the church office by **December 14th**
to have your dedication
printed in the bulletin.





Zion's Shut-in Members



Mrs. Marylou Graham
5273 Eastwick Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

Mrs. Phyllis Tanner
2621 Clara Ave
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Mrs. Diane Turner
2112 E Fairfax Ave
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Ms. Rubbie Holliday
1320 E. Pontiac St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46803

Mrs. Cheryl Hogle
1503 E. Paulding Rd. #46
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

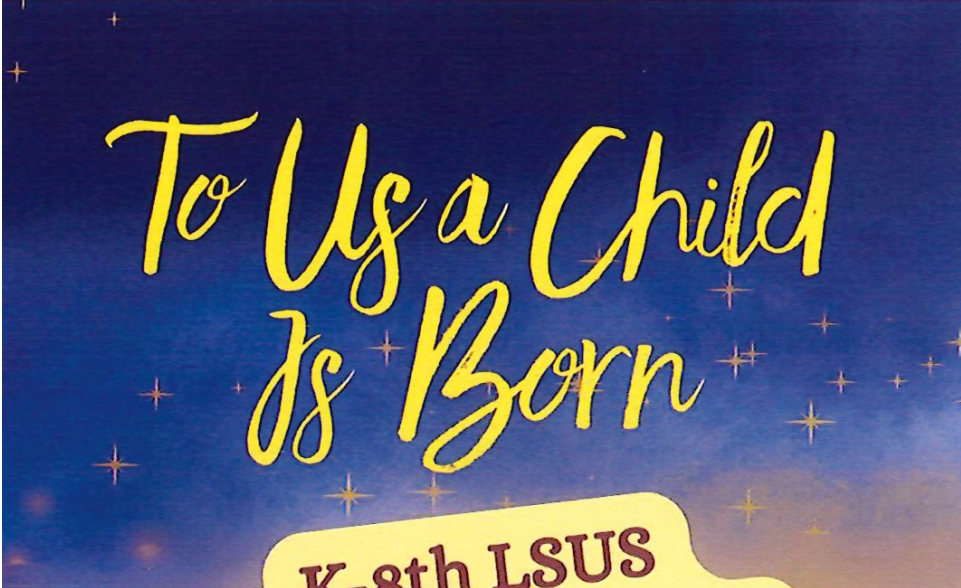
Mrs. Estella Ramirez
3917 Reed Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Ms. Marsha Smith
5700 Wilkie Dr.
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Ms. Debbie Busche
5405 Fernwood Ave.
Fort Wayne, IN 46809

Mr. Stanley Goeglein
7833 West Jefferson Blvd.
Apt. #221
Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Mrs. Virginia Carnahan
6433 S. Derby Dr.
Columbia City, IN 46725



*To Us a Child
Is Born*

**K-8th LSUS
Christmas Service**

Tuesday, December 16

6:30PM

at Zion Lutheran Church



Christmas at the Embassy

Christ is Born:

The World in Stillness Lay

At the Historic Embassy Theatre

December 14, 2025 | 4:00 p.m.



Concordia Lutheran
High School



December Event Schedule

FACEBOOK: BRIDGE 20/30 GROUP FT. WAYNE

2

DEC 2025

ADVENT SERIES "WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?"
WITH PASTOR CHAD VANMETER

7 PM THE GREENHAUS
3504 N. ANTHONY BLVD

9

DEC 2025

ADVENT SERIES "WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?"
WITH PASTOR CHAD VANMETER

7 PM THE GREENHAUS
3504 N. ANTHONY BLVD

16

DEC 2025

ADVENT SERIES "WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?"
WITH PASTOR CHAD VANMETER

7 PM THE GREENHAUS
3504 N. ANTHONY BLVD

23

DEC 2025

UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER PARTY

7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N. ANTHONY BLVD

30

DEC 2025

MEETUP: ICE SKATING @ HEADWATERS

7 PM 333 S. CLINTON STREET
HEADWATERS PARK
ADMISSION: \$7 SKATES: \$4