



Zion's Weekly Announcements

Sunday, December 4, 2022

LUTHERAN HOUR

for December 4

→ at 1:00 PM ←

KATE Radio (1450 AM)



"Paradise Restored" Text: Isaiah 11:1-10

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

If God is love, what are we to make of His wrath?

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

By the Preaching of Repentance,

We Are Prepared for the Coming of the Lord

"John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent'" (Matt. 3:1-2). His preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins prepared people for the coming of Christ into the world. St. John's work was historically complete with the incarnate advent of Jesus, but his vital ministry continues in preaching Law and Gospel. The Son of God has come in the flesh, "a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots" (Is. 11:1), and continues to bear the fruits of righteousness. His good tree of the cross is "a signal for the peoples" (Is. 11:10), by which He calls the nations to repentance. "With the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips" (Is. 11:4), He slays the wicked and brings the dead to life, making sons of Abraham out of lifeless stones. So also the "root of Jesse" comes to us, "even he who arises to rule the Gentiles" (Rom. 15:12), that "we might have hope" and be filled "with all joy and peace in believing" (Rom. 15:4, 13).

OUTREACH THOUGHT

Matthew 3:1-12: John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare the way for the first coming of His Son as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. We, like John the Baptist, have the opportunity to give a bold witness to Jesus, our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. May the Holy Spirit bless our witness and use it to change hearts for eternity.

Welcome to the promise of Advent: Amid barren trees, Isaiah announces spring growth — a "shoot" representing new life in Jesus (11:1). We are glad you are worshiping with us today at Zion Lutheran Church! God blessings to you all! – Pastor Matt

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"The Savior comes ... Let every heart prepare a throne and every voice a song" ("Hark, the Glad Sound!"). Help me prepare to receive you, Lord Jesus.

We have **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** for those who have visual difficulty at the usher's table.

Please sign the **Fellowship Registry** book at the end of your pew. In addition, guests and visitors are welcome to sign our **Guest Registry** by the church mailboxes in the Fireside Commons. Thank you.

Join us for **Fellowship Time** after today's worship service. **Sunday Morning Bible Class** and Sunday School are in session!! Praise the LORD!

All members and visitors at Zion, you may wear your facemask if you so choose. If you are feeling sick, please stay home to rest and recover.

Need **prayers** for healing or any other concerns? Request the Pastor or elders to pray for you in public worship or privately as the needs arise (James 5:14-16.) Call the church office to contact Pastor Matt (507) 373-8609.



STEWARDSHIP PONDERING

Matthew 3:1-2 – “In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”

John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus’ ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out His disciples to preach “repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Luke 24:47). We never outgrow the need for repentance — for examining our lives, turning away from our sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, “Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you.” - **Exodus 31:13**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The lesson this week is “An Angel Announces.” Mary receives an angelic announcement telling her that, despite her virginity, she will give birth to the long-awaited Savior. The child in Elizabeth’s womb leaps within her when the mother of the promised Messiah approaches. Elizabeth rejoices in the reaction and welcomes Mary to stay with her for a time. Mary’s song of praise, the Magnificat, resounds in the Church to this day.



The **memory gem** for today is: “My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.” Luke 1:47

We’ll gather at 10:20 AM in the Craft Room on the lower level of the Education wing of Zion.

CONFIRMATION (Conference Rm. – 6:35 PM)

“**The Judges**” (the book of Judges) is our next session. We’ll discuss God raised up judges every forty years to deliver His people.

The memory work is:

The Eighth Commandment

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Psalm 119:103

How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

(Conference Room – 10:20 AM)

“Angles: Who are these messengers of God” is our study topic today. Join us for Bible study this morning with your coffee and cake. We hope to see you there! – Pastor Matt



AT HOME IN OUR HEARTS

“All hearts come home for Christmas,” according to popular sentiment. But what if your heart (and/or home) is hurting or troubled? Does this season have room for people who are struggling? Does the holiday still have meaning?

Yes, God’s word tells us. In fact, that’s why God sent Jesus, the Word, from his heavenly home to make “his dwelling among us” (John 1:14, NIV). As fully human, Jesus experienced loneliness and betrayal, loss and physical pain. He was rejected by loved ones, angered by corruption, and abandoned to die. But as fully God, Jesus provides answers, healing and hope. Through his resurrection (which first required an earthly birth), Jesus offers salvation to all who believe in him.

As we await the heavenly home that God’s Son is now preparing, we can welcome him and his comforting promises, even into our hurting hearts.



DECEMBER STEWARDSHIP ARTICLE

Anxiety vs. Trust

Jesus, in His Sermon on the Mount, teaches those who follow Him that worrying about the necessities of life is idolatry: worshipping a false god. Worry and anxiety show what we care about. Our anxiety reveals what we love and what we're devoted to. It reveals what we trust in.

This is why our Lord begins this section with an overarching principle: "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money" (Matt. 6:24).

But you say: "I must eat and drink. I must have clothing to wear and have a home in which to dwell." Yes, all these things you need. And Jesus says that your Father in heaven will ensure that you have them. He demonstrates this with a simple argument: your Father in heaven feeds the birds of the air, who neither sow, nor reap, nor gather into barns. He clothes the lilies of the field, who neither toil nor spin but are arrayed more luxuriously than Solomon in all his glory. If, then, your Father in heaven feeds the birds, if He clothes the lilies, how will He not also feed and clothe you, when you are worth more than they are? (Matt 6:25–33).

Do you know that you are worth more than them? You are worth infinitely more. You are worth the price of the eternal Son of God. Did the Son of God come down from heaven and become a lily? Did he descend and take on the form of a bird? No! He came down from heaven and became a man: flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone (Gen. 2:23). He is one of us, our brother. And what did He do when He became flesh to dwell among us? He gave His holy, precious blood, through His innocent suffering and death, that you might be His own and live under Him in His kingdom forever.

God became man in Christ Jesus. He lived the life we failed to live, and He died the death we deserved. He was raised again on the third day overcoming sin and death ... for us. He was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification. So, if your Father in heaven has given His Son to die for us in order that we might live

with Him eternally, how will He not also give us all things to support this body and life?

To be anxious about the necessities of life, to devote yourself to food and clothing, to care about these things and find security in them, is to serve another god. It is to deny that you will live forever because Jesus, the Son of God, is risen from the dead and lives and reigns for all eternity. It is to believe that the God who created you, redeemed you by the death and resurrection of His Son and sanctified you by His Spirit, will not keep His promise to sustain you in this life.

Jesus says, "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness" (Matt. 6:33). God's kingdom is His rule among us. His rule among us comes when our Father in heaven gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His Holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity. This is what we ask God to do for us in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Your Father in heaven knows what you need — food and clothing, house and home — and He promises to give it to you. Chief of the things you need is His grace and mercy in His Son, Jesus Christ. So, seek after that. And those who seek will find. And all the necessities of life, our Lord says, will be added to you.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

PARENTS' HOLIDAY SHOPPING DAY

For Family Day this month we will watch your children while you shop!

Saturday, December 10
11 AM - 2 PM



We will have lunch, make Christmas cards for the shut-ins, and Christmas crafts rounding out the day with an indoor snowball fight!

Please let me know if your children plan to attend so that I can have enough supplies. I have confirmation students helping me so the more the merrier! - Toni Timm, 507-993-6141

Advent and Christmas Theme: "The Voices of the Season"

The Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 4, 2022 – 9:00 AM
"John the Baptist: Crying"

Midweek Advent 2

Wed., December 7, 2022 – 6:00 PM **only**
"Gabriel: Announcing"

The Third Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 11, 2022 – 9:00 AM
"Mary: Responding"

Midweek Advent 3

Wed., December 14, 2022 – 11:30 AM & 6:00 PM
"Elizabeth: Rejoicing"

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 18, 2022 – 9:00 AM
"Joseph: Naming"

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24, 2022 – 3:30 PM and 6:00 PM
"Angels: Resounding"

Christmas Day (Sunday)

Sunday, December 25, 2022 – 9:00 AM
"Shepherds: Telling"

The First Sunday after Christmas New Year's Day

Sunday, January 1, 2023 – 9:00 AM
"Herod: Ordering"



CHRISTMAS REHEARSALS

ZION CHOIR – CHRISTMAS EVE

Rehearsals:

- Sunday, December 11 after the service
- Wednesday, December 14 TBA
- Sunday, December 18 after the service
- Wednesday, December 21 TBA

Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by Pastor's Office door. If you have any questions, please speak to Eileen Nelson Ness.



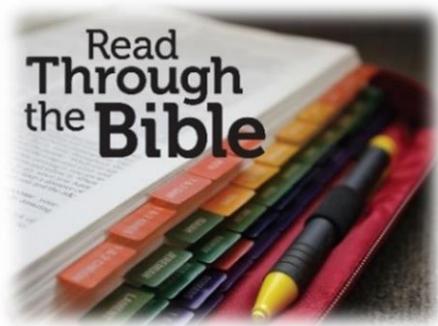
The Lord's Supper is celebrated in this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us,

that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Those desiring to be guests at the Lord's Table must:

1. Believe in Jesus as Savior and Lord (John 3:16; 2 Cor. 1:20);
2. Believe that in, with and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of Christ (1 Cor. 10:17; 1 Cor. 11:23-32);
3. Confess their sins, seek the assurance of forgiveness, and intend with God's help to amend their sinful life (1 John 1:8-9; Rm. 12:1).

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith, which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.



We continue with our reading through the Bible in 2022. Each day we will have readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, the Psalms, and the book of Proverbs. I encourage you to have a Daily Journal book or a notepad to jot down notes, thoughts, or questions about these daily readings. Blessing as you journey through God's Word!

December 2022

Day	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalms	Proverbs
1	Dan 8:1-27	1 John 2:1-17	120:1-7	28:25-26
2	Dan 9:1-11:1	1 John 2:18-3:6	121:1-8	28:27-28
3	Dan 11:2-35	1 John 3:7-24	122:1-9	29:1
4	Dan 11:36-12:13	1 John 4:1-21	123:1-4	29:2-4
5	Hosea 1:1-3:5	1 John 5:1-21	124:1-8	29:5-8
6	Hosea 4:1-5:15	2 John 1-13	125:1-5	29:9-11
7	Hosea 6:1-9:17	3 John 1-14	126:1-6	29:12-14
8	Hosea 10:1-14:9	Jude 1-25	127:1-5	29:15-17
9	Joel 1:1-3:21	Rev 1:1-20	128:1-6	29:18
10	Amos 1:1-3:15	Rev 2:1-17	129:1-8	29:19-20
11	Amos 4:1-6:14	Rev 2:18-3:6	130:1-8	29:21-22
12	Amos 7:1-9:15	Rev 3:7-22	131:1-3	29:23
13	Obadiah 1-21	Rev 4:1-11	132:1-18	29:24-25
14	Jonah 1:1-4:11	Rev 5:1-14	133:1-3	29:26-27
15	Micah 1:1-4:13	Rev 6:1-17	134:1-3	30:1-4
16	Micah 5:1-7:20	Rev 7:1-17	135:1-21	30:5-6
17	Nahum 1:1-3:19	Rev 8:1-13	136:1-26	30:7-9
18	Habakkuk 1:1-3:19	Rev 9:1-21	137:1-9	30:10
19	Zeph. 1:1-3:20	Rev 10:1-11	138:1-8	30:11-14
20	Haggai 1:1-2:23	Rev 11:1-19	139:1-24	30:15-16
21	Zech 1:1-21	Rev 12:1-13:1	140:1-13	30:17
22	Zech 2:1-3:10	Rev 13:2-18	141:1-10	30:18-20
23	Zech 4:1-5:11	Rev 14:1-20	142:1-7	30:21-23
24	Zech 6:1-7:14	Rev 15:1-8	143:1-12	30:24-28
25	Zech 8:1-23	Rev 16:1-21	144:1-15	30:29-31
26	Zech 9:1-17	Rev 17:1-18	145:1-21	30:32
27	Zech 10:1-11:17	Rev 18:1-24	146:1-10	30:33
28	Zech 12:1-13:9	Rev 19:1-21	147:1-20	31:1-7
29	Zech 14:1-21	Rev 20:1-15	148:1-14	31:8-9
30	Malachi 1:1-2:17	Rev 21:1-27	149:1-9	31:10-24
31	Malachi 3:1-4:6	Rev 22:1-21	150:1-6	31:25-31

About forty ladies attended the **Annual Christmas Brunch, Program, and Meeting** of the Zion Ladies Society on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022. The food and fellowship were wonderful as always! Thank to each circle for doing their part in making this a splendid event each year.

The program by from "Granny Legacy." Kim Zenk and her daughter Katie demonstrated and spoke their woolen needle work. We were so thankful to have them present and share beautiful kits and crafts.

Zion Ladies Society 2023

Election of Officers:

President – Toni Timm

Secretary – Jackie Bakken

Treasurer – Bonnie Ashling

Circle Officers for 2023

Hannah Circle:

Chair – Alayna Rohne

Secretary – Vicki Sanvik

Treasurer – Sandi Chapman

Martha Circle:

Chair – Nancy Golde

Secretary – Linda Sash

Treasurer – Arlene Murray

Ruth Circle:

Chair – Toni Timm

Co-Chair – Deb Viktora

Secretary – Joleen Domes

Treasurer – Bonnie Ashling

**Today (December 4) is
mite box Sunday!**

+ This Week's Calendar +

Sunday, December 4, 2022 – The 2nd Sunday in Advent

- 9:00 AM – Worship Service with Holy Communion
- 10:00 AM – Coffee and Christian Fellowship
- 10:20 AM – Christian Education Hour
- ➔ 1:00 PM – Lutheran Hour on KATE Radio (1450 AM)



Monday, December 5, 2022

- Church Office Closed
- Pastor is gone for Family Appointments in Iowa

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

- 11:00 AM – Hannah Circle Christmas Gathering – Pizza Ranch
- 12:00 AM – Martha Circle Christmas Gathering – Wedgwood Cove
- 4:00 PM – Ruth Circle Christmas Gathering – Bonnie Ashling's 311 Willamor Road
- 6:30 PM – Elder's Meeting (Conference Room)



Wednesday, December 7, 2022

- No Zion Quilters
- 10:00 AM – Funeral Visitation for Marvin Helgeson
- 11:00 AM – Funeral Service for Marvin Helgeson
- 11:45 AM – Meal and Fellowship
- 6:00 PM – Midweek Advent 2 Worship
- 6:35 PM – Confirmation Class (until 7:30)



Altar Flowers

Flowers today are in memory of Sylvia Kay Panzer and our granddaughter Maddison Noel Cornelius. Both died in the month of December. Sylvia in 2018 and Maddison in 2021.
– Roger Panzer and the Panzer Family

Thursday, December 8, 2022

- 6:45 PM – GA Meeting (Conference Room)

Friday, December 9, 2022

- Church Office Closed (Pastor's Day Off)

Saturday, December 10, 2022

- 9:00 AM – Communion Set-up (Flower and Altar)
- 11:00 AM-2:00 PM – Parent's Holiday Shopping Day

Sunday, December 11, 2022 – 2nd Sunday in Advent

- 9:00 AM – Worship Service with Holy Communion
- 10:00 AM – Coffee and Christian Fellowship
- 10:20 AM – Christian Education Hour
- 6:00 PM – Lutheran Hour on KATE Radio (1450 AM)



Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
and afternoon by appointment
Friday: Office Closed • Saturday: by appointment

Church Phone: 507-373-8609
Church Email: zionalbertlea@gmail.com

Pastor: Matthew L. Lehman
Email: lehman.ml@gmail.com



ABOUT ZION . . .

Vision: All of Zion's members actively reaching out with God's love to connect the community with Jesus.

Mission: Zion exists to enthusiastically share the Good News of Jesus with all in our community by connecting people with the Word and serving others with Christ's love.

Mission Statement: Sowing the Good News of Jesus Christ.