Zion Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

121 Bluejay Avenue– Mayer, MN 55360

Sharing Hope ~ Teaching Christ.

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The Baptism of our Lord—JANUARY 7th 2018

8:00am — Divine Service Setting One, p. 151 & on screen

10:30 — Printed Divine Service & on screen

Psalm: Psalm 29:1-4, 11 (Front part of Hymnal)
First Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5 pg. 1 in pew bible
Epistle Reading: Romans 6:1-11 p. 942 in pew bible
Gospel Reading: Mark 1:4-11 p. 836 in pew bible

Sermon: "When the Heavens are Torn Open" Romans 6:1-11; Mark 1:4-11 Pastor Gless

8:00 AM Hymns

"God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It" Vs. 1, 5 LSB 594
"Baptized into Your Name Most Holy" LSB 590
"If Your Beloved Son, O God" LSB 568
"Within the Father's House" (January Hymn of the Month)
"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" vs. 1-2, 5 LSB 394

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod belief about the Sacrament of the Altar:

(also called the Lord's Supper and Holy Communion)

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ [in, with, and] under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and to drink. *(Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)*

What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?

These words "given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament through these words.

Who receives the sacrament worthily?

The person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe. (*Martin Luther, Small Catechism).*

"We must never regard the sacrament as a harmful thing from which we should flee, but as a pure, wholesome, soothing medicine that aids you and gives life in both soul and body. For where the soul is healed, the body is helped as well. Why, then, do we act as if the sacrament were a poison that would kill us if we ate of it? Of course, it is true that those who despise the sacrament and lead unchristian lives receive it to their damnation… But those who feel their weakness, who are anxious to be rid of it and desire help, should regard and use the sacrament as a precious antidote against the poison in their systems. For here in the sacrament you are to receive from Christ's lips the forgiveness of sins, which contains and brings with it God's grace and Spirit with all his gifts, protection, defense, and power against death, the devil, and every trouble." *Martin Luther Large Catechism*

FOR OUR GUESTS…

We are delighted to have all guests and visitors with us today! As we celebrate Holy Communion, if you have not yet been instructed in the faith, or if you hold to a faith different than the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, it is out of love that we would, for the moment, invite you to refrain from partaking of this meal until we have had a chance to talk with you about our beliefs and practices. If you desire to learn more about our practice of the Lord's Supper, you are invited to be a part of Zion's *Welcome to Worship* class which is held twice a year. In the meantime, please feel free to come forward for a blessing, placing your arms across your chest to let the pastor know you would like to receive that blessing. As our pastors desire to faithfully love and care for you, please respect our position of love on this matter. In addition to the individual cups, we also offer the ***Common Cup*** during the administration of the Lord's Supper. ***Non-Alcoholic White Wine*** is also available in the center portion of each communion tray. ***Gluten free wafers*** are available. Please request a gluten-free wafer from the pastor.

IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK, please include:

- *Those who are in God's care*, especially our shut-ins
- Also for ***Pastor LeRoy LaPlant, Jody Snow, Brenda Vinkemeier, Arlys Honebrink, David Roy, Lorraine Thaemert, Dick Krahn, Maynard Kirchoff, Connie Rikke, Al Heuer, James Hagan, Barbara Hoback, Leon Franke, Bob Jopp, Terry Jopp***
- *Blessings for those celebrating birthdays this week:* 8– ***Ralph Domras***; 9– ***Ron Grimm;*** 10– ***Brian Cole***; 11– ***Harper Meuleners, Beth Schuette***; 12– ***Kynlee Blackketter***; 13– ***Allyson Grossinger***
- *Blessings for those celebrating anniversaries this week:* 8– Keith & Tami Otterstatter (24); 9– Troy & Kim Goede (30)
- *Our missionaries:* ***Todd Roeske and family (Alaska & Philippines), Pastor James May and Family (Lutherans in Africa). Seminarian Andy Jones & his wife Stephanie. Pre-Seminarian – Mark Esser (Concordia Nebraska)***

PRAYER MINISTRY– Zion's Prayer Chain is available for your use! To initiate a prayer, please call one of the following contact persons: Arleen Hoese (657-1049), Marlene Jopp (657-2398), or Sharon Buckentin (657-2549). You may also use prayer cards (found in church pews) to request prayers from prayer chain or during Sunday worship.

The **Christian Cards and Gifts** has Birthday, Get Well, Sympathy, Wedding and Anniversary boxed cards. Individual cards are also available. Check out our gift items including The Lutheran Study Bible, Lutheran Service Books, Prayer Books, Children's books. We are located at the bottom of the stairs of the lower level of the church. Barb Argabright or Ann Schuette will be available on Sunday mornings between services to help you with your purchase, or with any special order request.

INCLUDING CHILDREN IN WORSHIP—We welcome children in the worship service! Worship Bags for toddlers are available to help you share the worship experience with your child. They're located at the balcony stairs.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING —Operating Fund (Church, School, LHS, Missions): $10,868.23; Building Fund (New): $25; Building Fund (Maintenance): $200; Debt Reduction: $125; School Student Aid: $1,000; Help a Neighbor: $50.00. ***"Honor the Lord with your wealth, and with the first fruits of all your income. Then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine." Proverbs 3:9-10.***

Zion Lutheran now has an official Facebook page: Zion Lutheran Church Mayer, MN - LCMS. You will find updates, announcements, events and general Zion info. The page is administrated by the church office and Kelley Bahr. Please submit pictures, postings, events, etc to be posted on the website to Ashley in the office. We greatly appreciate it!

Portals of Prayer (Jan-Mar) are available in the narthex for your daily devotional time in this New Year. What a blessing we found in the December devotion by Pastor Steve Cohen, a Jew who came to faith in 1973 through the prayerful witness of a Lutheran layman. We thank our Zion LWML for making these devotions available.

Life Thoughts for the Baptism of our Lord: John's Baptism convicted every human being – "all the country of Judea" (Mark 1:5). No physical incapacities excused anyone. Jesus' Baptism consecrates every human being. God, in giving His Son, identifies with us at our weakest and embraces us at our worst. Even when we don't resemble anything our Maker intended, He doesn't call us "unwanted" or "better off dead." Instead He declares, "You are my beloved [child]; with you I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11). In this newness of life (Romans 6:4), Christians can also welcome the least among us. *Lord, construct Your kingdom of little ones like us. Amen.*

From the Office: Report items are due no later than January 12th. Email: zion.mayer.office@gmail.com or drop them off at the office.

January Hymn of the Month: Within the Fathers House (LSB 410) This hymn sings the truth behind the boy Jesus in the temple, which is recorded in Luke 2:41 -52. It was written by James R. Redford and first published in 1863. The tune FRACONIA was first composed by Johann Balthasar Konig in 1738, and then adapted by W. H. Havergal for its current form in 1847. The hymn is considered an Epiphany hymn as it fits in with the revealing story of the Christ child, though it captures the lesser remembered snapshot of Jesus' adolescent youth. Of course, it also points us to the full revealing (or epiphany) of God's plan of salvation that was to come through Jesus' death and resurrection, as well as reminding us of the great epiphany that will happen at Jesus' Second Coming.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUCEMENTS …

Are you looking for fun and fellowship? Consider joining the Zion Mayer Dart-ball team! Games are played on Tuesday evenings, 8pm at Zion and other local area churches. Both men and women are welcome to participate. Whether you are interested in playing a full schedule, just occasionally, or have questions please contact Jason Hoese at 952-334-9559 or 952-955-2331. Our next game is January 9th at Zion against Waconia.

Zion Breakfast Fundraiser for our Kenya Servant Events is TODAY! Sunday, January 7th 2018 from 10am-1pm in our school gym. We will be serving waffles, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, coffee, juice, and milk. Thanks for all your support in the past and in the future!

Waconia Brewing Company Fundraiser for the Zion Servant Events to support Lutherans in Africa is this Tuesday, January 9th 2018 from 4pm-9pm. The first team will be on servant team 1 are: Bill & Jolene Devine, Lyle Honebrink, Duane & Tammy Smith, Doug & Lucille Woodford.

Families Moving Forward is coming January 14-21, 2018. Sign-ups are online at zionmayer.org. We look forward to your help whether financially, making meals, helping with the children, and prayers. If you have questions call Gayle Guthland at 952-826-9046

Zion Quilters – our first day of quilting will be Tuesday, January 16th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. We welcome new helpers; come for all or part of a day. Bring a bag lunch, coffee will be furnished.

F.A.I.T.H. event Sledding and Chili fest: The Board for Family Ministry would like to invite you to our next F.A.I.T.H. event, a sledding party and chili fest at Jon and Jenny Maetzold's, 5750 Hwy 25, from 1pm to 4pm on January 28. Family Ministry will provide the chili and hot dogs. Please bring pot-luck snacks or desserts. In case of no snow we will have a game day at the school with the same times. Questions contact Newell Hoback at 952-657-2403.

Zion Catechesis Meeting (7th Graders and their Parents) There will be a brief mandatory Zion Catechesis meeting pertaining to the Rite of First Communion for all 7th graders and their parents on Sunday, January 14. The meeting will take place in the Church Basement, and it will begin after second service at approximately 11:45am. Thank you!

Baptisms today— Today we celebrate the baptism of Clara Joy Alstadt, daughter of David & Kristin Alstadt, born on November 4th at the 8:00am service; her sponsors are Collett Mazula & LeAnn Holland. We also celebrate the baptisms of Hailey Jane Morley & Ellie Jo Morley, daughters of Joseph and Nicole Morley, born December 8th at the 10:30 service. Hailey's sponsors are Mandy & Mahlon Zimmermann and Dayna & Brian Geisbauer; Ellie's sponsors are Mandy & Mahlon Zimmermann and John & Crystal Morley.

MCCL March for Life will take place on January 22nd at 12:00pm on the capitol mall south of the capitol building. The purpose of the March is to commemorate the lives lost to abortion (and the women and men who have been hurt as a result) and to call for renewed respect and protection for all members of the human family, including unborn children and their mothers.

The Sanctity of Human Life Sunday will be observed here at Zion on Sunday, January 28th. We will have a door offering for LFL. You may use the special LFL envelope in your 2018 offering envelope packet.

Zion LWML will meet Jan. 11 at 1:30pm at New Perspective in Waconia. Pastor Gless will lead our Bible Study from the Winter LWML Quarterly. Following this we will have a short meeting, our Mite offering, and fellowship with our sisters in Christ who now live there. All ladies are welcome. Please carpool.

Blood Drive—Mayer New Germany Community blood drive will be Tuesday, February 6th from 1:00 to 7:00pm at St. Mark Lutheran School (211 Adams Ave. S.-New Germany)

ZION SCHOOL NEWS…

"Sharing Hope, Teaching Christ!"…

Zion's website www.zionmayer.org ~ Complete list of teachers & contact information located in the monthly newsletter. **Chapel is held on Wednesday mornings at 8:30am** with this Wednesday being led by Pastor Gless. **Chapel** offerings for second quarter are designated to Lutherans In Africa. ***SALT SALES*** – If you are in need of salt, please use the salt sheets in the narthex, or call the school office, 952-657-2339. Thank you for your support!

National Lutheran Schools Week is Jan 21-27

Devotions each day in gym at 8:20am
Jan 21 ~ Opening Church Service 9am at MLHS
Jan 22~ Lunch with child/grandchild; Pizza, Pop, Picture Night 5:30pm
Jan 23~ Preschool & Kindergarten Open House 3:30-6:30pm
Jan 26~ Chapel 2:00pm

Contact: Jessica Boersma, 952.955.3531; jessicaboersma13@gmail.com

K- 5th grade - Lesson 12 - Jan. 7th
"God's People Go Home" is the focus for this week's Sunday School lesson. God used unbelieving kings to restore His exiled people to Jerusalem according to His will. God sent Jesus, the King of kings, to Jerusalem to restore His wayward people to Himself forever. As a family, discuss, *"What preparations did the people need to make before they returned to Jerusalem? How can you prepare for worship each week?"*

Preschool - Jan. 7th
Today's story is of "Three Men Standing". Ask your child(ren) who the 3 men were and where were they? Who helped them?

SHARING HOPE—TEACHING CHRIST . . .
during the week of January 7th

Today:	Worship/Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Bible Class/Sunday School	9:15 AM
	Worship/Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Brunch Fundraiser	10:00 AM–1:00 PM
	Sr. Youth Group	4:00 PM
Monday:	Faculty Meeting	3:15 PM
	PTL Meeting	7:00 PM
Tuesday:	WBC Fundraiser	4:00 PM-9:00 PM
Wednesday:	Chapel	8:30 AM
	Bible Class	10:00 AM
	Catechesis	3:45 PM
	Jr. Youth Group	5:00 PM-6:45 PM
	Ladies Bible Class	7:00 PM
Thursday:	LWML Meeting	1:30 PM
Friday:	Annual Report Items Due	
Next Sunday:	Worship/Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Bible Class/Sunday School	9:15 AM
	Worship/Holy Communion	10:30 AM

SERVING THE LORD & HIS PEOPLE TODAY:
Worship Leader/Preacher: Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford/Rev. Adam Gless

Elder:	Dale Kovar	
Greeters:	**Early:** Gary & Kathy Hoese, Scott Theisen, Dale Hoese, Mark & Pam Gutzke	
	Late: Ralph & Karen Unglaub, Bob & Robin Carlson, Dave & Heidi Olsen	
Organist:	Mrs. Helen Bunge	Keyboard: Tracy Shipler
Acolyte:	Aaron Guse	Jack Baumann
	Dru Houser	Alexa Carlson
PowerPoint:	Korinne Kramer	Olivia Quiram