



## Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Zion Lutheran Church  
210 North Wayne Street  
Saint Marys, Oh 45885

December 27, 2020  
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

## Prelude

## Welcome & Announcements

### Opening Litany

L: We gather in the name of the Father, and the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: The light of Christ shines in the darkness,

**C: and the darkness will not overcome it.**

L: The Word became flesh and lived among us,

**C: and we have beheld Christ's glory.**

L: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**C: In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

L: All things in heaven and on earth came into being through the Word of God. This Word incarnate is the source of all life, hope, and salvation for all who believe.

**C: Come let us worship him in truth.**

L: Let us pray. Christ Jesus, you took on the form of God, yet you, not regarding equality with God as something to be exploited, emptied yourself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. You humbled yourself in this life and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

All this you did for us, sinners who do not deserve such mercy and grace. For this we thank you with our whole hearts and praise your holy name.

**C: Forgive us our sins, O Lord.**

L: Take heart, your sins are forgiven in Christ Jesus because of your faith.

Hymn

*"Joy to the World"*

Insert

## Readings of Lessons and Singing of Carols

|               |  |        |
|---------------|--|--------|
| First Lesson  | Isaiah 61:10—62:3                        | Insert |
| - Hymn:       | <i>“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”</i> | Insert |
| Psalm 111     |  | Insert |
| - Hymn:       | <i>“On Christmas Night”</i>              | Insert |
| Second Lesson | Galatians 4:4-7                          | Insert |
| - Hymn:       | <i>“What Child Is This”</i>              | Insert |
| Gospel Lesson | Luke 2:22-40                             | Insert |
| - Hymn:       | <i>“Love Has Come”</i>                   | Insert |

### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the

Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the  
dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Responsive Prayer

L: Let us gather our hearts together as one and offer our  
prayers to God.

(Silence...)

L: Lord God, you have blessed us beyond our wildest  
imagination; you have given us family, home, a faith  
community, work, play and all we need for each day.

**C: Help us to be truly grateful.**

L: It is you, loving God, who breathes life into bodies.

**C: It is you who calls us into existence.**

L: This Christmas, and always, draw all people to kneel at the  
manager

**C: to gather in wonder with the humble shepherds.**

L: Into Christ's holy presence, draw your people

**C: to greet the Messiah with joyous hearts.**

L: In the comfort of the promised King,

**C: draw all to sing praises with the angels.**

- L: It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.
- C: In a field, a stable, in our homes and hearts you meet us.
- L: Bring healing to the hurt and broken especially...Bring all to life eternal.
- C: Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

- L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,
- C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### Sharing of God's Peace

- L: Peace of the Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.

### Benediction

- L: May God our Father fill you with the light of divine love.
- C: Amen.
- L: May Jesus, our Emmanuel, bring you assurance he will come again.
- C: Amen.
- L: May the Holy Spirit lead you until the dawning of a new day.
- C: Amen.

L: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn : "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

Insert

### Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

### Postlude

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*Happy Birthday*

*17th*

*Savannah!*

*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in celebration of Savannah Slater's 17<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 31, by her parents, Marion & Josie Slater.*

**Anniversary  
Wishes**



*A pair of anniversary roses have been placed on the altar in honor of John & Sue Vogel's 54<sup>th</sup> on December 30.*

***Today, December 27\****

**Acolytes:** Jake Sharp, Genevieve Brown

**Ushers:** Doug Stetler, Deb Henning  
Keith Fledderjohann, Suzanne Ankerman

**Greeters:** Ryan & Brandy Yahl  
Sandy Wierwille, Cheryl Macklem

**Readers:** Linda Yahl, Kathy Lampert

***Next Sunday, January 3\****

**Acolytes:** Will Ross, Zoey Henning

**Communion Assistants:** Jody Slemmons & Jeanne Wurster  
Darl Bishir, Pam Fledderjohann

**Crucifers:** Isaac Torsell, Ella Glass

**Ushers:** Steve & Dora McAfee  
Keith Fledderjohann & Donna Ankerman

**Greeters:** Steve & Dora McAfee  
Sandy Wierwille & Joni Immenschuh

**Readers:** Donna Decker, Ruth Hoenie

\*Correct as of time printed

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# The Word of God



*First Sunday after Christmas*

*December 27, 2020*

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## **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature and be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that we, having been redeemed and made your children by grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **First Reading      Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

<sup>1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. <sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. <sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

## Psalm 111

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup>Great are the deeds of the Lord!  
they are studied by all who delight in them.

<sup>3</sup>His work is full of majesty and splendor,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;  
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

<sup>5</sup>He gives food to those who fear him;  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

<sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power of his works  
in giving them the lands of the nations.

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;  
all his commandments are sure.

<sup>8</sup>They stand fast forever and ever,  
because they are done in truth and equity.

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant  
forever;  
holy and awesome is his Name.

<sup>10</sup>The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his  
praise endures forever.

## Second Reading      Galatians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

## Gospel

## Luke 2:22-40

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, {Joseph and Mary} brought {Jesus} up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup>"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." <sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." <sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

### **Next Week's Readings:**

**1 Kings 3:4-15; Psalm 119:97-104; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52**

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## Calendar for December 27—January 10, 2020

|      |            |  |
|------|------------|--|
| S/27 | 8:00 a.m.  | Service of Carol & Lessons   |
|      | 9:15 a.m.  | Adult Sunday School  |
|      | 10:30 a.m. | Service of Carol & Lessons   |
| M/28 | 2:00 p.m.  | Office Closes  |
| T/29 | 2:30 p.m.  | Office Closes  |
| W/30 | 2:30 p.m.  | Office Closes  |
| T/31 | 2:30 p.m.  | Office Closes  |
| F/1  |            | Happy New Year/Office Closed   |
|      | 11:00 a.m. | Paulus/Kemmann Wedding   |
| S/2  | 11:30 a.m. | Bishir/Franklin Wedding  |
| S/3  | 8:00 a.m.  | Traditional Worship Service*/Recognition<br>of 2020 & Installation of 2021 Officers  |
|      | 9:15 a.m.  | Adult Sunday School  |
|      | 9:15 a.m.  | Crossroads   |
|      | 10:30 a.m. | Traditional Worship Service*/ Recognition<br>of 2020 & Installation of 2021 Officers |
| M/4  | 7:00 p.m.  | Boy Scout Troop #360   |
|      | 7:00 p.m.  | Pastor Lead Bible Study  |
|      | 7:00 p.m.  | Women's Fellowship Group   |
| T/5  | 6:00 p.m.  | Trustee Meeting  |
|      | 7:00 p.m.  | Council Meeting  |
| W/6  | 11:00 p.m. | Staff Meeting  |
|      | 12:30 p.m. | Bulletin Information Deadline  |
|      | 6:30 p.m.  | Worship*   |
|      | 7:00 p.m.  | Confirmation Class   |
| S/9  | 9:00 p.m.  | Men in Mission Bible Study   |
|      | 10:00 a.m. | Take Down Christmas Decorations  |
| S/10 | 8:00 a.m.  | Traditional Worship Service  |
|      | 9:15 a.m.  | Adult Sunday School  |
|      | 9:15 a.m.  | Crossroads   |

10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

7:00 p.m. The Underground

*\*Holy Communion*

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**We invite you** to include the following people in your daily prayers: Janet Dicke, Tanner Fortman, Judy Von Blon, Juli Clark, Brent Paulus, Jo Ann Cooper, Adam Poe, Judy Howell, Debbie Fishbaugh, Carol Singleton, Don Deitsch, Lindsay Stephan, Sandi Deerhake, Marvin Elsass, Ruth Edwards, Nathaniel Henline, Karmindy Mertz, William Franklin, Pastor Tim Smith, LeeAnn Merricle, Kim Peyton Reyes, Rick Adams, Don Regedanz, Dave Lutz, Sandee Burd, Kirk Burd, Karen Burd, Alma Kuffner, Carol Bishir, Carolyn Staugler, Caleb Yahl, Family of Lewie Wibbeler, Family of Jim Merriman, Family of Kevin Shipman, Family of June Prange, Pr. Bill & Ann Maki and all those living with or around the Corona virus.

**Please pray** for Sean Lawler, Andrew Johnson, Michael Carroll, Eli Handy, Nathan Adams, Jacob Yahl, Brad Platt, Jason Gross, Daniel C. Lukac IV, Michael Franklin and Kyle Schmehl who are in the service. Please pray for them, their family, and their safe return home.

**We invite you** to include in your prayers the upcoming marriages of Jeremy Kemmann and Alexa Paulus on Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup> and Samantha Bishir and Michael Franklin who will be married Saturday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Our loose offerings** each Wednesday and Sunday loose offerings in December are earmarked to go to Institute of Lutheran Theology. The Christmas Eve loose offerings will go to Zion current expenses.

**Christian Sympathy** to the Family of Lewie Wibbeler, brother of Jan Suchland and Carol Knatz, the Family of Jim Merriman and the Family of June Prange, daughter of Pastor Alvin Prange (served Zion 1947-1964).

**Readers are needed:** If you are willing to be a reader, please mark your "I Worshiped Today" and circle which service you would like to read at. Deadline to sign up is **Today, Sunday, December 27.**

**The church office** will have limited hours, beginning on **December 28** until year end. They will be Monday–12/28 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Tuesday–12/29, Wednesday–12/30 and Thursday–12/31, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The church office will be closed on **Friday, January 1**, in observance of New Year's Day. Office hours will resume on **Monday, January 4**, 8:30–12 and 12:30–4:30 p.m.

**All officers** of the Zion Women of NALC and our 2021 Congregation Council are invited to attend either the 8 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service on **Sunday, January 3**, to be installed. We will also be recognizing all officers and committee members of each group who have served in the past year(s).

**The Flower Chart** for the first 6 months of 2021 is now available on the bulletin board by the alley entrance. We invite you to select the date you wish to provide flowers. On the Tuesday before the date you selected, order your arrangement from your favorite florist, and contact the church office, 419-394-3115, to let us know what information you would like included in the bulletin. **January 3, 10, 24 and 31** is still available.

**The Pastor Lead Bible Study** will resume on **Monday, January 4**, in the All-Purpose Room at 7 p.m. We will continue studying Proverbs.

**The Women's Fellowship Group** will resume on **Monday, January 4**, in the 4-6 classrooms (across from All-Purpose Room) at 7 p.m. Books are \$10, they can be picked up from the church office.

**We invite** all newly elected congregation council members to attend the first council meeting on **Tuesday, January 5**, at 7 p.m., in the Auditorium.

**Help is needed** for taking down the Christmas decorations on **Saturday, January 9**, from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon.

**Dollar for Dollar Match:** We have been contacted by a couple from Zion who wish to match dollar for dollar any new donations given to the roof fund over the next 12 months. Earmark your offering envelopes "Roof" and we will apply it to this special dollar for dollar offer.

**Would you like to stay connected** to activities here at Zion via text messages? We have the opportunity to join a program to keep you informed about church-wide events or specific group events within our church (*i.e. youth group or confirmation, worship team, women's and men's ministry, etc.*) by a text message. Let us know if this something you would participate in, by marking YES on your I worship today--along with your cell phone #.

**Can you play** an organ, flute, etc. or sing a solo? Volunteer to play or sing special music during the service by calling Merilee at 419-953-9046.

**Our 8 a.m. worship service** is broadcast live on WCSM radio 96.7 FM. Thank you to our primary sponsor of our WCSM radio broadcast--St. Marys Chrysler. Volunteers are needed to help



with the sound board. No experience needed! Anyone interested in running the sound board during worship will be trained. We would like to have more people for rotation purposes. Contact the church office, 419-394-3115, or Pastor Bill if you can help.

**2020 Church Council**

President..... Stan Brown  
Vice-President..... Ryan Yahl  
Secretary..... Lisa Hollenbacher  
Assistant.....Liz Ackroyd  
Treasurer..... Pete Ackroyd  
Assistant.....Marion Slater

**COUNCIL AT LARGE:** *Cheryl Macklem, Lisa Hollenbacher, Marion Slater, Darl Bishir, Pete Ackroyd and Ryan Yahl*

**BOARD OF DEACONS:** *Keith Fledderjohann, Sandy Wierwille, Kermit Hecht,\* Steve McAfee, Judy Schultz, Jeanne Wurster, Rhonda Weaver, Doug Stetler and Connie Torsell*

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**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE:** *Liz Ackroyd*

*\*Committee Chairperson*

| <b>Weekly Needs<br/>51 Weeks</b> | <b>Budget<br/>Y-T-D</b> | <b>Received<br/>12/21</b>                              | <b>Offerings<br/>Y-T-D</b> | <b>On Hold</b> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------|
| Current - \$6,529                | \$332,979               | \$4,938  | \$292,690                  | \$0            |
| NALC Benev. \$290                | \$14,790                | \$65   | \$10,710                   |                |
|                                  |                         |  |                            |                |
| Bank Balance as of 12/21:        |                         | \$ 73,683 - Includes Payroll<br>Protection Plan Monies |                            |                |