**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2022**

**Theme: We Hear the Advent Angels**

**\*If you are listening in your car, please tune your radio to FM 87.7\***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: HOPE**

**Read by: Karen Heise**

Today we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope.

We put our hope in the one to come, the promised one who comes from God to

bring good news of salvation. We hope in the one who will lead us to walk in the light of the LORD. We hope he will not let us live in dark valleys, but on the high mountain of God. We light this candle in Hope.

**On this day, we remember to hopefully look for the coming of Christ.**

(Verse One)



**OPENING PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. God of our salvation, you speak through angels and prophets, telling us: “Be strong, do not fear! For I will come and save you.” Open our eyes and unstop our ears, that we may sing for joy at the coming of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who looks upon us in compassion,

forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Have mercy, O God,

**against you, you alone, we have sinned.**

**In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt.**

**Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit.** **Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.**

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God’s compassion for you.

As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God’s love for you.

As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

**Blessed be God forever.**

**Gathering Song“Joy to the World” ELW 267**

 

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**DIALOGUE**

**Surely God is my salvation;**

**I will trust, and will not be afraid,**

**For the Lord God is my strength, and my might;**

**And has become my salvation.**

**A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,**

**And a branch shall grow out of his roots.**

**The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him;**

**His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.**

***(Based on Isaiah 11:1-3; 12:2)***

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray together.

**Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading**    **Isaiah 2:1-5**

A reading from Isaiah.

  1The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

 2In days to come
  the mountain of the Lord’s house
 shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
  and shall be raised above the hills;
 all the nations shall stream to it.
  3Many peoples shall come and say,
 “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
  to the house of the God of Jacob;
 that he may teach us his ways
  and that we may walk in his paths.”
 For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
  and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
 4He shall judge between the nations,
  and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
 they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
  and their spears into pruning hooks;
 nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
  neither shall they learn war any more.
 5O house of Jacob,
  come, let us walk
  in the light of the Lord!

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 22**

   1I was glad when they **|** said to me,
  “Let us go to the house **|** of the Lord.”
 2**Now our | feet are standing**
  **within your gates, | O Jerusalem.**
 3Jerusalem is built **|** as a city
  that is at unity **|** with itself;
 4**to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the Lord,**
  **the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the Lord.**
 5For there are the **|** thrones of judgment,
  the thrones of the **|** house of David.
 6**Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem:**
  **“May they pros- | per who love you.**
 7Peace be with- **|** in your walls
  and quietness with- **|** in your towers.
 8**For the sake of my kindred | and companions,**
  **I pray for | your prosperity.**
 9Because of the house of the **|** Lord our God,
  I will seek to **|** do you good.”

**Second Reading**   **Romans 13:11-14**

A reading from Romans.

4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel** **Luke 1:5-25**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

5In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. 7But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.
8Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, 9he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. 10Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. 11Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. 12When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. 13But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. 14You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, 15for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. 16He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. 17With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." 18Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." 19The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. 20But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

21Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. 22When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. 23When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.
24After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 25This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**SERMON Pastor Becky Ebb-Speese**

**Hymn of the Day “O Little Town of Bethlehem” ELW 732**



**prayers of Intercession**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ’s presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth’s beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus’ birth. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care. We also pray for the people of Ukraine. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict (especially). Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

**God of Zecheriah, you break into our fearful world with news of joy and gladness. Give light to all who sit in darkness, and guide our feet into the way of peace. God in your mercy,**

**hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus’ name we pray.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering & Offering song**



**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray. God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.

**Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

**Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**



**Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Invitation to Communion**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

**communion**

\**continuous*

*\*People are welcome to kneel at the altar rail for a time of prayer after they receive their communion elements*

**SongS During Communion**

**“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ELW 254**



**“He Came Down” ELW 253**



**Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray. We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Blessing**

Soon, the angel will announce to the shepherds, “Fear not! I bring you good news of great joy.” As we await the coming of Christ, may the God of our salvation grant you peace and joy, hope and gladness.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “Fling Wide the Door ” ELW 259**



**Dismissal**

Fear not! Christ is coming soon.

**Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!**

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**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SERVED TODAY:**

**Presider: Pastor Becky Ebb Speese**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Paul Meade**

 **Trustee: Jerry Engle**

**Offering Counters: Doug Mackenzie & Mike Johnson**

**Safety Person: Jerry Engle**

**This week at Zion:**

* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, November 30
* **Newsletter deadline, November 30**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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* **Thank you so much** for the gift basket that you gave me for Pastor appreciation! I love all of the gifts and do very much feel appreciated!
Pastor Becky
* **All gifts given through the congregation to Lutheran World Relief** ( you can indicate your gift on your offering envelope) will be doubled up to $200,00 through December 31.
* **Zion's Undie Sunday-**The Board of Evangelism has a new project collecting socks and underwear of all sizes (kids to adults) for Manna's Market Clothes Closet. Jayne Flanigan said there is always a big need for these items because they must be new. Jerry Engle has received a grant from Thrivent Financial for $250.00 to purchase some of them. The Board of Evangelism members are the Thrivent Action Team. There is a table in the Fellowship Hall for all donations. Zion will be collecting donations until **today.**.
* **Lost Water Bottle**.  If you come across a stainless steel water bottle with a teal lid, Contigo brand, please give it to Martha.  Thank you!
* **Christmas Around the World:** For the Christmas program this year we are going to explore how others around the world celebrate Christmas. During the program we will hear how it’s celebrated in other countries and we want to hear any traditions your family has for celebrating that have been passed down. Are there certain foods you enjoy? Tell us and bring those to our potluck! Are there special gifts you give? Are there special traditions? We want to hear about them. Feel free to share with Pastor Becky or Jolene.