**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**First Sunday of Christmas, January 1, 2023**

**\*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.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

**Amen.**

**Gathering SongS“It Came Upon A Midnight Clear” ELW 282, verse 1**



**“Angels We Have Heard on High” ELW 289, verse 1**



**“O Come All Ye Faithful” ELW 283, verse 1**



**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.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray together.

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, 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**    **Numbers 6:22-27**

A reading from Numbers.

22The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 23Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,  
 24The LORD bless you and keep you;  
 25the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;  
 26the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
27So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 8**

1O **|** Lord our Lord,  
  how majestic is your name in **|** all the earth!—  
**2you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in- | fants and children;  
  you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe | and avenger.** 3When I consider your heavens, the work **|** of your fingers,  
  the moon and the stars you have set **|** in their courses,  
**4what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them,  
  human beings that you should | care for them?** 5Yet you have made them little less **|** than divine;  
  with glory and hon- **|** or you crown them.  
**6You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;  
  you have put all things un- | der their feet:** 7all **|** flocks and cattle,  
  even the wild beasts **|** of the field,  
**8the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,  
  and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.**  
 9O **|** Lord our Lord,  
  how majestic is your name in **|** all the earth!

**Second Reading**   **Galatians 4:4-7**

A reading from Galatians.

4But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. 6And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel** **Luke 2:15-21**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

15When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.  
21After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON Martha Yoder**

**SERMON Martha Yoder**

**Hymn of the Day “Love Has Come” ELW 292**



**Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**Offering & Offering song “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” ELW 276 verse 1**



**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.**

**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.**

**Sending**

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

**Blessing**

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonGS “Silent Night, Holy Night ” ELW 281 verse 1**



**“Go Tell It on the Mountain ” ELW 290**



**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Presider: Martha Yoder**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Paul Meade**

**Trustee: Dan Zylstra**

**Offering Counters: Mary Makley & Martha Yoder**

**Safety Person: Diane Griffin**

**This week at Zion:**

* Pastor Becky on vacation through Monday, January 2
* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, January 4
* Worship planning, 4:30 PM Thursday, January 5
* Sunday School resumes on Sunday, Jan 8

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**.

* **Reminder**: During the heating season, please leave the Sunday School classroom doors open when not in use otherwise the opening area will be very cold.  Please close the doors to the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall when they are not in use.  Thank you.
* **Annual Meeting:** Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting on January 15th.  This is an important meeting to elect officers and board members as well as other items requiring congregational approval.  One item for congregational consideration is approving an expenditure to upgrade and improve church signage.  There will be a potluck dinner following the meeting.  Mark your calendars and plan to be at Zion on January 15th.