**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Second Sunday of Advent, December 4, 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: Peace**

**Read by: Claude and Mary Smith**

Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ. Today we light the second candle of Advent, the candle of Peace.

God has a peaceful dream for the world, and we dream it too. We dream of peaceful world full of wolves and leopards and lions eating and sleeping and dancing with lambs, kids, and calves. We dream of a peaceful world where nations come together, where war is a memory, and we eat at one table. We light this candle in Peace.

**On this day, we remember the Lord of All who brings peace surpassing all understanding.**

(Verse Two)



**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“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” ELW 257 Vs 1-4**

 



**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 11:1-10**

A reading from Isaiah.

 1A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
  and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
 2The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
  the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
  the spirit of counsel and might,
  the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
 3His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
  or decide by what his ears hear;
 4but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
  and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
  and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
 5Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
  and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

 6The wolf shall live with the lamb,
  the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
 the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
  and a little child shall lead them.
 7The cow and the bear shall graze,
  their young shall lie down together;
  and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
 8The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
  and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den.
 9They will not hurt or destroy
  on all my holy mountain;
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
  as the waters cover the sea.

 10On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

1Give the king your jus- **|** tice, O God,
  and your righteousness to **|** the king’s son;
 2**that he may rule your | people righteously**
  **and the | poor with justice;**
 3that the mountains may bring prosperity **|** to the people,
  and the **|** hills, in righteousness.
 4**Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,**
  **rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.** R
 5May he live as long as the sun and **|** moon endure,
  from one generation **|** to another.
 6**Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,**
  **like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**
 7In his time may the **|** righteous flourish;
  and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall **|** be no more.
 18**Blessed are you, Lord God, the | God of Israel;**
  **you alone do | wondrous deeds!**
 19And blessed be your glorious **|** name forever,
  and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- **|** men. Amen.

**Second Reading**   **Romans 15:4-13**

A reading from Romans.

4Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. 5May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, 6so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

 7Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. 8For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, 9and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,
 “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
  and sing praises to your name”;
10and again he says,
 “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”;
11and again,
 “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
  and let all the peoples praise him”;
12and again Isaiah says,
 “The root of Jesse shall come,
  the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
 in him the Gentiles shall hope.”
13May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**



**Gospel** **Luke 1:26-38**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

26In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." 29But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. 33He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 36And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. 37For nothing will be impossible with God." 38Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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 “My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness” ELW**



**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.

**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, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. We pray especially for Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Traverse City and Rev. Paul Busekist. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of Mary, you know the fears of your people. Lift up the lowly, especially those who are sick, those who mourn, those who are hungry, and all in need of your care. 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**

**“As the Grains of Wheat” ELW 465**



**“Comfort, Comfort, Now My People” ELW 256**



**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 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel ” ELW 257 Vs 5-8**



**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: Dan Utterback**

 **Trustee: Mike Johnson**

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

**Safety Person: Diane Griffin**

 **This week at Zion:**

* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, December 7
* Women’s Coffee Fellowship, 9 AM Thursday, December 8 at C & R’s

**Save the date:**

* Blue Christmas Service at Zion, Wednesday, December 14 1 PM & 7 PM

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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* **Community Dinners:** Zion is one of the churches that takes turns serving the community dinner held on Thursdays at the Central United Methodist Church.  And, it is Zion’s turn again on December 15th!  We are in need of volunteers to help set-up, serve, and clean up the meal.  We are also responsible for providing a dessert to accompany the meal.  If you can help in any way, we need you!  Please let Martha Yoder know if you are able to help with this.
* **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.
* **The Board of Evangelism wants to thank**everyone who donated to Zion's collection for Manna's Market of socks and underwear.  Jayne Flanigan told board members that there is always a big need for these items as they must be new. For underwear, we collected 117 for ladies, 134 for girls, 13 for men and 74 for boys totaling 338.  For socks, we collected 35 pairs for ladies, 62 pairs for girls, 12 pairs for toddlers, 29 pairs for men and 28 pairs for boys totaling 166.  We also received 6 men's undershirts.  Thank you to Thrivent Financial for giving Jerry Engle a $250.00 grant that was used to purchase some of these items. All were packed on Giving Tuesday, November 29th and delivered to Manna's Market on Wednesday morning. Zion is blessed to be able to help others in our community.
* **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.