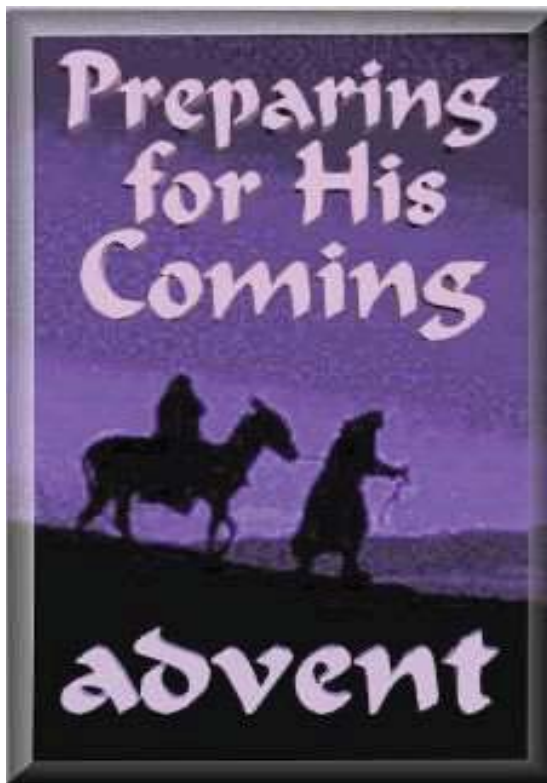


# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH



*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given by Jay & Kim Anderson in Memory of their grandparents and Elsie DallaPiazza in Memory of grandparents Andrew & Julia Wagner

**ETERNAL LIGHT** is given by Bernice DeBoe in Memory of Sisters & Nieces – Naomi, Betty, Anna Louise, Amy and Anasthia

**FREE COFFEE FRIDAY!** We're looking for designs for our coffee mugs for Free Coffee Friday and we can use your help. Our goal is to remind people of the love of God for them in Jesus as they drive to work. (And, hopefully, throughout the day.) We'll have more information for you in the November Newsletter, but start thinking about what you'd like to see on the Free Coffee Friday coffee cups!

**BACK TO THE BASICS.** Three years ago we studied the Gospel of John together on Sunday morning here in worship. Two years ago we read through the Bible in a year. Last year we focused on memory passages. This year we added a service of prayer (and preaching). And now we are excited to announce that next year we are going to go **BACK TO THE BASICS**. We'll spend the year together in worship learning (and re-learning) the basics of the Christian faith. Look for more information in the December newsletter and right here in the Announcements!

**NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON** is coming soon! If you've joined our church in the last year or so (or if you've been visiting with us for a good bit of time), look for an invitation to come to a free lunch on January 11<sup>th</sup>, where you can get to know the church leadership.

**USHERS NEEDED!** Please consider volunteering to be an usher for early or late service for 2015. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Contact Larry Zreliak with any questions!

**CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER & SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT** will be the evening of Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup>. See Insert for more information and reservation form.

**ADVENT.** Join us this coming Wednesday for midweek Advent service at 7:00pm. We'll have dinners before the service, starting at 6:00. Our theme this Advent will be on the Advent Names of Jesus.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** for next year are now available. You can be picked them up in the back of the church.

**NEED PRAYER?** Stephen Ministers and Elders will be available to pray with or for you following the Service in the chancel area.

**MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will begin in January. We'll both be studying the same thing: Paul's Letter to the Galatians. Men will continue to meet on Saturday at 8:00am; women on Tuesday at 7:30. The study will last for six weeks; fun for the whole family! Sign-up sheets are hanging in the narthex.

**TODAY'S GOSPEL READING AND SERMON** will be posted to the ZLCB.org website later today. For an archive of older sermons, visit [www.zlcb.org/sermons](http://www.zlcb.org/sermons)

# Welcome to worship!

## We Are Advent People

It has a nice ring to it, doesn't it? ADVENT PEOPLE. And so we are. We are people who look back at the first advent of our Lord Jesus Christ while also looking forward to his second coming (or advent) at the close of the age.

And to a large extent the culture around us encourages us to be Advent People. Manger scenes, Christmas lights, and holiday preparations encourage us to look back and remember what happened 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem when Immanuel was born king of the Jews. The magi and shepherds, angels and barnyard animals used as decorations this special time of year also call us to remember what happened with the time had fully come.

We are advent people. And as much as the culture around us encourages us to look back and remember when our Lord Jesus Christ was born into the world, it does not encourage us to look forward with hope to the second coming of Christ at the close of the age. But as important as it is for us to remember and celebrate the first coming of Christ, it is just as important that we stand ready to receive our Lord when he comes again. And so this morning we turn to the words of St. Paul from the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans as he encourages the church to find encouragement in the Scriptures and in the unity they have with each other as they look forward to the Lord's return. I think you will find Paul's words both uplifting and challenging as you live out your calling—as we live out our calling—as Advent People!

God bless your time in worship this morning!

-Pastor Duncan

**Rev. Duncan McLellan, Pastor**

Pastor's Phone: 412-667-0967

Website: [www.zlcb.org](http://www.zlcb.org)

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Fax: 412-221-4780

# The Divine Service

(Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance books. If you are visiting us this morning and would like to be contacted by the church, please indicate so in the Attendance Book. We are glad you chose to worship at Zion this morning!)

## *Introduction to Worship and Announcements*

**Opening Hymn:** Hark the Glad Sound 349

### *The Invocation*

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

### *Confession of Sins*

**Pastor:** This morning our focus is on being Advent People. We will learn from St. Paul that, as Advent People, we are to welcome people as God has welcomed us. If we are honest we have put up walls and barriers between ourselves and others; walls that have been destroyed by the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. For this and the other sins we have committed with our thoughts, words and deeds, let us confess our sins.

**People:** Lord Jesus Christ, your word teaches that you have welcomed us into fellowship with the Father by grace. Yet we have created barriers of our own making between ourselves and others. We have used things like income and race, education and past mistakes to keep us from loving those you have redeemed by your blood. We ask that you would have mercy on us for these and the other sins we have committed in thought, word and deed. Amen.

### *Absolution Spoken by the Pastor*

**People:** Amen.

**Hymn of Praise:** This Is the Feast 155

### **Refrain:**

*This is the feast of victory of our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.*

**[REFRAIN]**

*Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are His.*

**[REFRAIN]**

*Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:*

*Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

**[REFRAIN]**

*For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.*

**[REFRAIN]**

## ***The Prayer of the Church***

Pastor: ... Lord, in your mercy.

**People: Hear our prayer.**

(Please be seated)

## **The Service of the Word**

### **The Old Testament Reading: Malachi 4:1-6**

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts.

“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

## **The New Testament Reading: Romans 15:4-13**

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**Pastor:** In honor of our Lord Jesus Christ, we rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**People:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **The Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:1-13**

Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

## ***Children's Message*** (10:30)

***Sermon Hymn:*** The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns 348

### ***Sermon***

(Please stand)

### ***The Apostles' Creed***

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

### ***The Collection of the Offering***

### ***Choir Offertory 10:30 - Bethlehem Wind***

If you are visiting with us this morning, know that your presence here means far more to us than any gift of money you could make; please do not hesitate to let the plate pass you by.

(Please stand)

## **The Service of the Sacrament**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

**People:** **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.**

### ***The Words of Institution***

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** **And also with you.**

### ***The Sharing of the Peace***

#### ***The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)***

163

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.*

(Please be seated until it is your time to commune.)

### ***The Distribution***

We welcome to the Lord's Table all who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God, can examine themselves spiritually and believe they receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins and as a profession of their faith. If you hold a profession of faith that differs from that of our congregation, please speak to the Pastor before the start of the service before communing.

- We believe the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine.
- We believe Christ offers the forgiveness of sins in the Lord's Supper, but that the Lord's Supper is not necessary for salvation.
- We believe the Lord's Supper remembers the death of Christ and proclaims his death until he returns.
- We believe the Lord's Supper is a statement of unity in the body of Christ; we do not believe it creates that unity.

During the distribution, you are encouraged to sing the Distribution Hymns, pray, or meditate on the words "this is my body... this is my blood, given for you."

The cups at the center of the Individual Communion tray contain diluted wine for those with alcohol sensitivities.

### ***Distribution Hymns***

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

357

Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy

774

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

769

(Please stand)



## ***Prayer of Thanksgiving***

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

## ***Benediction***

People: **Amen**

***The Recessional:*** Once He Came in Blessing

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## † *Service Participants* †

Pastor:	The Rev. Duncan McLellan
Music Director:	Mark Killinger
The Organist:	Sandra Quinlan
The Elders:	John Gielarowski and Frank Vallelunga
The Acolyte:	Nathan Morgan (8:00) Jennifer Fitzgerald (10:30)
The Greeters:	Bob & Nancy Spotti (8:00) Bill & Susie Bishop & Family (10:30)
The Ushers:	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, Ron Meier and Jack Oelschlager (8:00) Josh Gielarowski, Chuck LaJeunesse, Loren Ludeman & Jim Oelschlager (10:30)
Altar Guild:	Janet, Marian & Molly Oelschlager

### **Last Week in Worship**

Sunday Worship Attendance (11/30) – 194

Thanksgiving Eve Attendance (11/26) - 66

Midweek Attendance (12/3) – 69

## Week of Dec. 7 – 14

<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>12/7</b>	8:00 AM – Worship w/Communion 9:15 AM – Bible Study/Sunday School 10:30 AM – Worship w/Communion 11:45 AM – Children’s Choir Practice 12:00 PM – Confirmation 5:30 – Christmas Caroling
<b>MONDAY</b> <b>12/8</b>	7:00 PM – EGAF Meeting 8:00 PM – Mon. Night Football & Fellowship @ Pizzaz
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>12/9</b>	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>12/10</b>	6:00 PM – Advent Dinner 7:00 PM – Advent Service
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>12/11</b>	10:00 AM – Bible Study 7:00 PM – Choir Practice 7:30 PM – Council Meeting
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>12/12</b>	
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>12/13</b>	10:00 – Sunday School Program Dress Rehearsal
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>12/14</b>	8:00 AM – Worship w/ Communion 9:15 AM – Bible Study/ Sunday School 10:30 AM – Worship w/ Communion 11:45 PM – Children’s Choir Practice 5:30PM – Christmas Dinner 7:00 PM – Christmas Play FOOD BANK COLLECTION