



Zion Lutheran Church, Indiana PA
Second Sunday of Advent
December 3 & 4, 2022

Prelude Beth Grafton - Substitute Organist

Confession and Forgiveness: Page 94

Entrance Hymn: ELW # 239 “Hark, the glad sound!”

Chesterfield

Apostolic Greeting: Page 156

Lighting of the Advent Wreath:

AM: Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again. You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit’s fire. Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.

C: Amen

Hymn: ELW # 257 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (Stanzas 2)

Veni, Emmanuel

Kyrie: Page 156

Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; 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

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.

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. R

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

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.

Gospel Acclamation: Page 160

Glory to You O Lord: (Spoken)

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Praise to You O Christ: (Spoken)

Homily: Pastor Tedd Cogar

Hymn of the Day: ELW #264 “Prepare a royal highway”

Bereden Vag For Herran

Nicene Creed: Page 104

Prayers of Intercession

Peace: Page 161

Offertory Anthem

Offertory Canticle: ELW #186 “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

Offertory Payer:

A: Let us pray

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen

Great Thanksgiving: Page 161

“Holy, Holy, Holy”: Page 162

Eucharistic Prayer: Altar Book

Lord’s Prayer: Page 163

Lamb of God: Page 164

Invitation to Communion:

P: Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

Communion Hymns: ELW #272 “Lo, how a rose e’er blooming”

Es Ist Ein Ros

Post Communion Blessing:

Post Communion Prayer:

A: Let us pray

C: Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Hymn for Peace: ELW #749 “O God of Love, O King of Peace”

Prayer for Peace

A: Let us pray

C: Oh Divine, most mighty, most merciful, our sacred stories tell us that you help and save your people. You are the fortress: may there be no more war. You are the harvest: may there be no more hunger. You are the light: may no one die alone or in despair. Oh Divine, most majestic, most motherly, grant us your life. Amen

Blessing: P: God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever. Amen

Recessional Hymn: ELW #246 “Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!”

Merton

Dismissal: AM: Go in Peace, Christ is near.

C: Thanks Be to God!

Postlude

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MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

5:30 PM - LECTOR: Kami Dugan; ALTAR GUILD: Sat AM Kathy Huston, PM Shirley Horner; ASSISTING MINISTER: Kim Balcerak; USHERS: Rik & Bev Wissinger.

9:30 AM – LECTOR: Don Seagren; ALTAR GUILD: Sue Dickson; ASSISTING MINISTER: Jenn Rising; USHER: Tyson Ellenberger.

Church Attendance Last Week (November 26 & 27)

Saturday 20 -- Sunday 20 -- Online 75

Giving - November

\$12,033.30

THIS WEEK AT ZION – DECEMBER 5

Wednesday	<u>JERRY OFF</u> 6:00 - Adm/Finance Meeting (<u>Time Change</u>) 7:00 - Mid-Week Advent Service Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting
Thursday	11:30 - Staff/Volunteer Luncheon
Friday	Zion Office Closed
Saturday	5:30 - Liturgy
Sunday	8:30 - Choir Practice 9:30 – Liturgy 10:40 - Choir Practice Narcotics Anonymous

Remember all those requesting prayer: Katrina Albright, Ron Anderson, Liesl Andrie, Jessica Badowski, Tamie Blank, Becky Bono, Peter Broad, Tom Brown, Susan & Bob Butchkoski, Jim Chapman, Adam Chilenski, Lonnie Cogar, Jeff Davis, Paul Davis, Donald Dustin, Akou Ester, Beth Ford, Harry Ford, Heidi Good, the Guella family, Gene Hartzell, Chris Howard, Dan Howard, Diana Howard, Michael Kowchuck, Richard Lamberski, Ronda Leasure, Bishop Michael Lozano, Prisca Maier, Karl & Dorrinna Martini, Judy Matsko, Marvin McClure, Darla Mechling, Paula Miller, Dave Nycum, Shawn Otto, Fred Park, Loretta Piper, Scott Potterask, Bob Reifsteck, Jason Roney, Christian Santos, Coleen Seagren, Sande & Gene Shotts, Aurora Shultz, Deborah Stephens, Denny Swanson, Jr, Bob Tierney, Brett Tyger, Kristine Volpatti, Jane Williams, Dominic Yensi.

Prayers for our family and friends is a cooperative effort

We at Zion, are privileged to pray for you and your loved ones and friends. Please be sure to let us know of your prayer requests. And it would help us so much if you could update us on the status of those on our prayer list.

We want to continue praying for those who are in need, to give thanks to God for those who have been healed and to pray for any family if they lost a loved one. That can only happen if YOU keep in touch with Zion's office and update us regularly.

You can speak to Beverly Monday through Thursday from 9AM until 2 PM or email her at zionlutheran@comcast.net.

Thank you in advance for your partnership in this prayer venture.

NOTE: Zion council discussed our prayer list management at their recent monthly meeting. Council has suggested that a quarterly review be conducted on the prayer list. With that in mind we need your help in verifying that ALL who continue to need our prayer support remain on the list.

Zion Announces Advent/Christmas Worship Schedule

Zion Council, at its August meeting finalized service schedules for the upcoming Advent and Christmas season.

Beginning on Wednesday November 30, 2022 at 7:00 PM, Zion will hold the first of four Advent devotions. These devotions will continue each Wednesday through the four weeks of Advent.

*****NOTE: Our Wednesday Advent devotions will be held in the Zion office meeting area.***

Zion will hold its Christmas Eve service on Saturday, December 24, 2022 at 7:30 PM

There will be a Christmas Day Breakfast on Sunday, December 25, at 8:30 AM hosted by Pernell & Sheri Bowersox.

Zion will hold services on Christmas Day Sunday December 25, 2022 at our normal Sunday time of 9:30 AM

No services will be held on Saturday December 31, 2022

Zion will hold services as normal on Sunday January 1, 2023 at 9:30 AM.

We will provide additional notice of our worship schedules in the future.

Volunteer Opportunity

The Recreation & Fellowship Committee is hoping to find one or two individuals willing to work together to transition to take the lead in making sure kitchen functions happen! A vital part of Zion's family ministry, this would include such things as calling together a crew to cook or provide desserts, set up/clean up the dining room for the occasional dinner, event, or funeral luncheon, and help to keep the storage room supplied and organized. Benefits include: learning techniques and shortcuts from fellow kitchen crew members, building and strengthening bonds and friendships, enjoying fellowship with each other and guests, and much more. You'll be provided with accumulated info from all past events, recipes, and other ins-and-outs we've learned through the years. *Only if requested, I would be happy to continue with behind-the-scenes work, i.e. planning events with hosts, arranging menus, providing recipes and hints, researching, shopping, etc. An endless supply of moral support and prayers will come your way! And last, but certainly not least, having fun has always been a kitchen requirement! If one or two of you are moved to take on this part of Zion's ministry, please get in touch with me to talk about it. kathygaylor6@gmail.com or 724-422-6761. And thank you!*

PARISH ED/SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT

Parish Ed/Sunday School are collecting hats, mittens/gloves and socks to be given to Family Promise and Alice Paul House. Please bring in your donations and put in the back of the Nave. Deadline is December 11.

STAFF & VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON

The annual staff and volunteer Christmas Luncheon will be held at 11:30 AM on Thursday, December 8, in the Social Hall. This is for anyone who has ever volunteered (past-present-future). A sign-up sheet is in the office directly under the clock. Please join us! Parking will be available at Graystone Presbyterian (next door) for this.

A Fond Farewell to our valued Friend – Jerry Ruffner

On December 31, 2022, our dear friend and valued staff member, Jerry Ruffner, will be retiring from his duties at Zion. Jerry has been a faithful member of our Zion staff family for many years. He has performed his duties with enthusiasm and thoroughness, always with a smile and a kind word to all.

It has been a pleasure to work with Jerry over the years as he has made the tasks of those of us who volunteer that much easier by his presence on our staff.

We hope that you all will find time to say “thank you” to Jerry for his service to Zion.

We would like to extend our thanks in a more meaningful way through a farewell gift. If you wish to join us in this effort, please send in your gift through your regular offering or through a special donation. Please mark your intended gift “for Jerry” so that we can properly make account of it.

ALSO—a new sexton has been hired to replace Jerry. His name is Jim Laughlin. He will start on January 2, 2023.

Holiday Staff Bonus is a great way for us to say “THANKS!”

Our staff, though small, is a blessing to our congregation. Our staff works behind the scenes to make sure that our building is ready for worship and meetings and the day to day operations necessary for our congregation to function are performed. Most of us never see the amount of effort that is expended to make everything at Zion happen.

We have an opportunity at holiday time to say “Thank You!” to these dedicated individuals through our annual Staff Bonus gifts.

We hope that you consider giving generously to this effort.

Food Pantry News from Calvary Presbyterian

Food insecurity numbers for Indiana County are alarming. The county's food insecurity rate is 12.6% (10,650 total), 0.8% higher than national average. The annual food budget shortfall to meet the needs is \$5,678,000. Also note the average cost per meal is \$3.31*. The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank estimates that Indiana County's 2021 child insecurity rate was 17.9%.



To be part of the solution Calvary Presbyterian Church set up a food cupboard outside the office entrance at 695 School Street. This food is available to all, no forms to complete, no income guidelines, just the honor system to take only what you need. It is stocked with donations from generous individuals and families. We invite you to be a part of this ministry to feed our neighbors in need. Some donation ideas include canned goods, soups, boxed meal kits, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, baking supplies, cereals, crackers, tuna, pasta sauce, dessert mixes, cold beverage mixes, tea & coffee or monetary contributions. **There is a red donation box outside the School Street entrance to Calvary for your non-perishable food gifts.**

We hope this endeavor will be a unifying ministry among our congregations. Call Dory Campbell at 724.463.9197 if you would like more information.

*Stacker.com

PASTOR/PASTORAL CARE

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