

Second Sunday in Advent

December 6/7, 2025
5:00 PM, 8:00/10:30 AM

Welcome To Our Guests

Thank you for joining us in worshiping the Savior at Zion this day. We pray that your time here serves to build your faith and equip you for the week ahead. Please come again.

If you desire to find out more about becoming part of the Zion family, please contact Vickie Adams, vadams@zionharvester.org, in the church office. Our family loves to grow and we'd love to have you join us!

Welcome Center

The Welcome Center is a place for the Zion family and its guests to gather for fellowship with each other and where information about Zion is readily accessible. Every weekend opportunities to connect are highlighted and publications and ministry brochures are made available. Please visit the Welcome Center before or after worship to greet one another and to stay connected to God's mission through Zion.

Children's Messages

Since children become members of the Christian Church through baptism, we desire to nurture their faith by engaging them in God's story of faith and in our corporate worship of Jesus. Resources to "build a worship bag" can be found just outside the Sanctuary doors. Please find items that will help engage your child in worship and return these after the service.

Children's Messages are designed for children between the ages of two through elementary school; however, all children are welcome. A team of members and staff who are gifted for this ministry invite you to accompany and assist your young child and join the children in the chancel.

Nursery and Cry Room

During all Worship Services, a Cry Room is available in the back of church for you to calm your child or change a diaper. During the Education Hour on Sundays, childcare for infants and toddlers is offered in the Nursery located on the lower level opposite the Fellowship Hall.

Worship Decorum

Please silence your cell phones during Worship Services.



Service of the Word

Jay Beech, James Moore, David Haas

About the Children's Message during Advent

For the season of Advent, the Children's Message occurs right after the Opening Hymn. During the last stanza of that hymn, children should come forward as soon as the leader appears in the chancel. If you have a young child that needs assistance, please accompany your child and join the children in the chancel.

Prelude

Variations for "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" – arr. Michael Burkhardt

Ringing of the Bell

Preschool Song

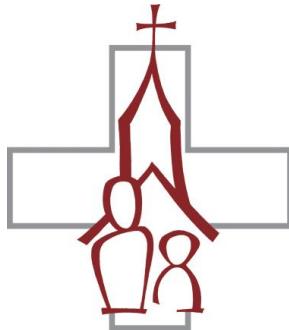
5:00, *Let's Take a Peek in the Manger – Jenny Williamson*

10:30, *Praise Ye the Lord, Hallelujah – traditional, arr. Angela Naeve*

Welcome

Stand

Sharing of the Peace



Opening Hymn: Let Us Go to the House of the Lord

Psalm 122:1

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

Called from ev - 'ry na - tion, Here the poor are wel-comed, Words that must be spo - ken, called from ev - 'ry race, here the lost are claimed, grace that must be heard,

gath-ered here for wor-ship Bro-ken lives are mend-ed, Mer - cy and for-give-ness in this ho - ly place; deep - est fears are named; from God'sho - ly Word,

God is here a-mong us, Here the wise are child-ren Here, will be re-peat-ed; lift your hearts and sing, and the weak are strong, Peace! to all pro-claimed,

make the walls and raf - ters ring. Here, in Christ, we all be - long. Shout - ed out in Je - sus' name.

Text and music: Jay Beech, © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense.net, no. A-705005.

Sit

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Children may come forward as soon as the Children's Message leader appears in the chancel. If you have a young child that needs assistance, please accompany your child and join the children in the chancel.

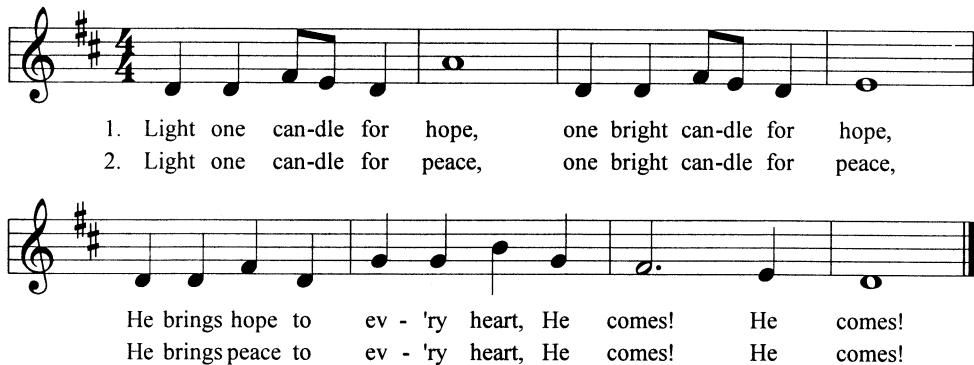
Blessing at the Advent Wreath

- L** We give praise to You, O God, for this advent wreath that helps us count the days of preparation for Christ's coming again. As we light the second candle, fill us with the peace that comes from knowing that Christ will be coming soon.
- C** **Give us the light of Your grace, that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we may prepare our hearts to welcome Him with peace and join Him in His everlasting kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain. Amen.**

Two Advent candles are lit as the Advent Wreath Hymn is sung.

Advent Wreath Hymn: Light One Candle

sts. 1-2



1. Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope,
2. Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace,

He brings hope to ev - 'ry heart, He comes! He comes!
He brings peace to ev - 'ry heart, He comes! He comes!

Text and music: Natalie Sleeth, © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense.net #A-705005.

Children's Message



Confession and Absolution

Stand

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession of Sins

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, we are altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways we have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your children. But trusting in Jesus, our Savior, we pray: Have mercy on us according to your unfailing love. Cleanse us from our sin, and take away our guilt. Amen.**

Declaration of Grace

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear children. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C Amen.

P In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord in song.



Praise and Thanksgiving

Hymn of Praise: Litany of Thanksgiving



We praise you, Lord, we bless your name,
we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks.

1. For all these won - der - ful gifts, For the joy of be - ing a - live,
2. For all these bless - ings, O Lord. For each day that we live, O Lord,
3. For your guid - ing pres - ence, O Lord, For your prom - ise to al - ways be there,

3

For the love which grows in our hearts, We praise you, Lord. (to refrain)
For the peace which grows in our hearts, We praise you, Lord. (to refrain)
For the joy which grows in our hearts, We praise you, Lord. (to refrain)

3

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Greeting and Prayer of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Holy Scripture

Old Testament

Isaiah 11:1–10

The Righteous Reign of the Branch

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and 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 of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf 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 cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

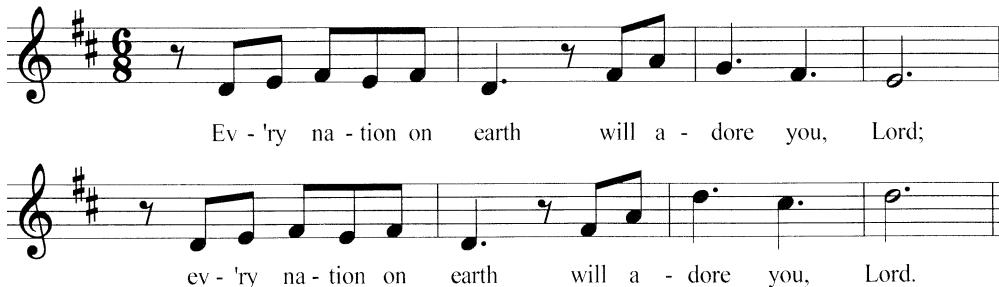
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day: Every Nation on Earth [8:00]

Psalm 72, paraphrase

Refrain



Ev - 'ry na - tion on earth will a - dore you, Lord;
ev - 'ry na - tion on earth will a - dore you, Lord.

A Refrain

C Refrain

A O God, with your judgment endow the king; with your justice endow the king's son.
With justice he will govern your people, your afflicted one with right judgment.

C Refrain

A Justice shall flower in his days, lasting peace 'til the moon be no more. May he rule from
seas to sea, from the river to the ends of the earth.

C Refrain

A The kings of Tarshish and the Isles offer gifts, those from Seba and Arabia bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him their homage, all nations shall serve him.

C Refrain

A He rescues the poor when they cry out, the afflicted with no one to help. The lowly and
poor he shall pity, the lives of the poor he will save.

C Refrain

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Christ the Hope of Jews and Gentiles

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to 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 praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹²And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Preschool Song

5:00, *Clip Clop Comes the Donkey* – Edie Bernhardt
10:30, *Go Tell It on the Mountain* – traditional

Stand

Verse [8:00]

John 6:68

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

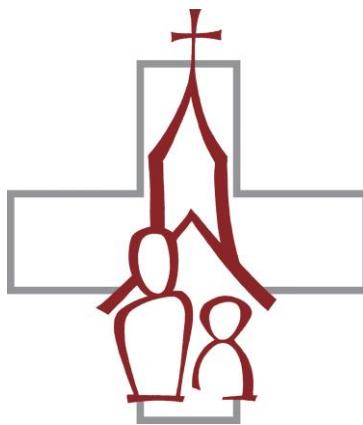
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

C Refrain

A Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; You have the words of everlasting life.

C Refrain

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- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

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

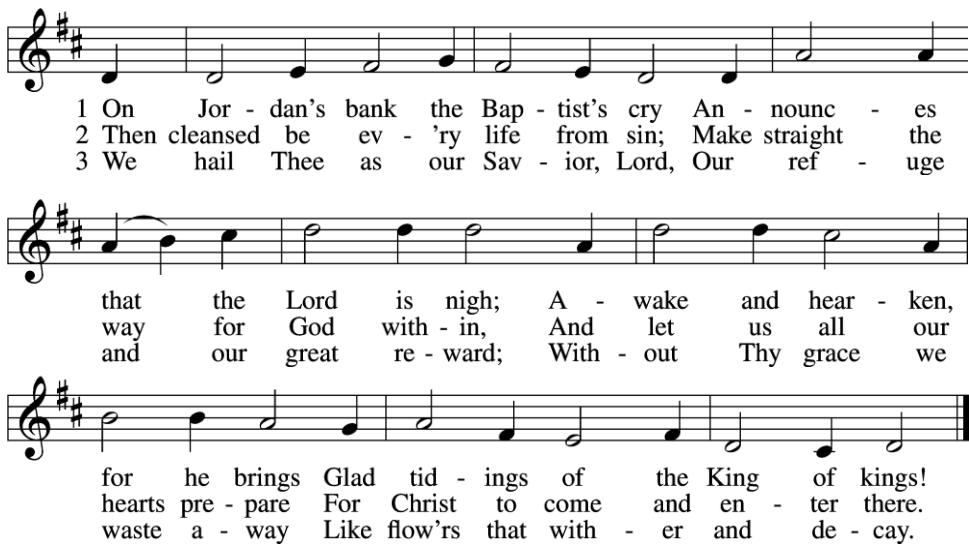
⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to 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 he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: 344 - On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

sts. 1-3



1 On Jordan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.

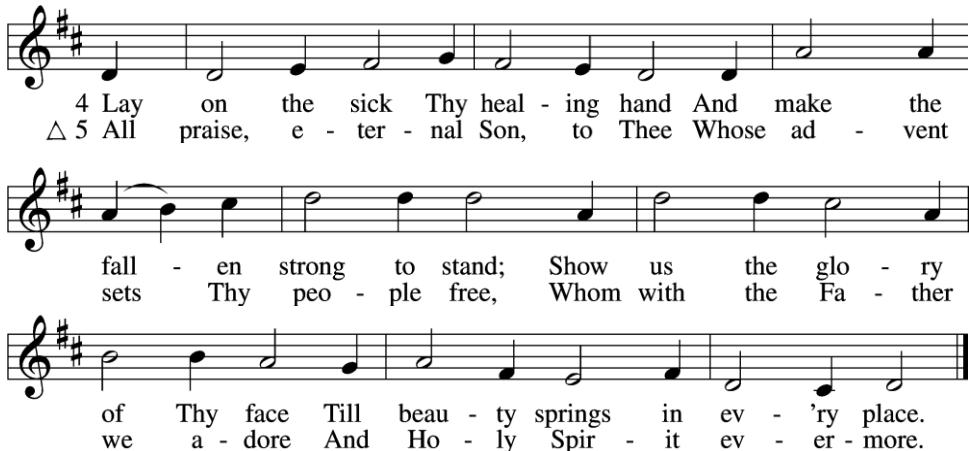
Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: 344 - On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

sts. 4-5



4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the.
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C 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.

Sit

Offering

5:00, *Away in a Manger* – traditional

8:00, *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* – arr. Jacob B. Weber

10:30, *Oh Joy!* – Angela Naeve

*Members and guests, please use this time to fill out an Attendance Card, located in the pew racks.
At the end of the offering, the ushers will collect all Attendance Cards.*

Prayers of the Church

Stand

Song of Prayer: Increase Our Faith

Luke 11:1-13,17:5

Refrain



Lord, in - crease our faith. With all our
heart, may we al - ways fol - low you.
Teach us to pray al - ways.

C Refrain

A So, I say to you: "Ask, you will receive; seek and you will find. Knock, it shall be opened to you."

C Refrain

A Whoever asks, they shall receive; whoever seeks shall find. Whoever knocks, the door will be opened.

C Refrain

A If you, with all your sins, know how to give, How much more will God give to all those who cry from their hearts!

C Refrain

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Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition the following bid is spoken.

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,
C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
C 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.

Blessing

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

Closing Hymn: Joy Has Dawned



1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion:
2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels,
3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;
4. Son of A - dam, Son of Heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som;



God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
as the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.
Gifts of men from dis - tant lands pro - phes - y a sto - ry.
Re - con - ci - ling God and man, Christ our migh - ty Cham - pion!



Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness,
Gold, A King is born to - day; In - cense, God is with us;
What a Sav - ior, what a Friend, what a glo - rious my - st'ry:



but a hum - ble gift of love: Je - sus, born of Ma - ry.
cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.
Myrrh, His death will make a way, by His blood He'll win us.
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of his - t'ry.

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Postlude

Joy Has Dawned – arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Acknowledgments

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Participants

Preacher:		Seminarian Brian Fish
Liturgist:		Rev. Mike Fieberkorn
Children's Message:		Angie Steinbacher, Children's Ministry Director
Organist:		Mark Thoelke
Choirs:	5:00	<u>Preschool Classes</u> Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Fish, Mrs. Mudd, Mrs. Rouland
	10:30	<u>Preschool Classes</u> Mrs. Horn, Mrs. Talley, Mrs. Thomas
Soloists:	5:00	Teresa Thoelke
	8:00/10:30	Daniel Thoelke
Instruments:		Liturgical Ensemble
Lay Readers:	5:00	Christine Runge
	8:00	Jon Bernhardt
	10:30	Mike Koenig
Acolytes:	5:00	Ella Temm, Nolan Fahey
	8:00	Katalaya Oparaji, Joshua Helmkamp
	10:30	Kaitlyn Magee, Jack Dunbar
Elder:	5:00	Rob Halterman
	8:00	Chris Bates
	10:30	Brian Moore
Ushers:	5:00	Ray Barker Team
	8:00	Kevin Bergfeld Team
	10:30	Gerry Krueger Team