

Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
First Sunday of Advent
LBW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, December 1, 2024

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE:**

“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” (LBW 34, verse 1)

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (LBW p. 56)**

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage 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 you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Amen

***ENTRANCE HYMN:** “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You” LBW (green) 23

***APOSTOLIC GREETING (LBW p. 57)**

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.

KYRIE (LBW p. 57)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

***HYMN OF PRAISE:** “People Look East” WOVS (blue) 626, verse 1

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 62)**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

ANTHEM: “Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven”

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-9

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my ¹trust in you;
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph ¹over me.

²**Let none who look to you be ¹put to shame;**
let the treacherous be disappointed ¹in their schemes.

³Show me your ¹ways, O LORD,
and teach ¹me your paths.

⁴**Lead me in your ¹truth and teach me,**
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all ¹the day
long.

⁵Remember, O LORD, your compas- ¹sion and love,
for they are from ¹everlasting.

⁶**Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹my transgressions;**
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your good- ¹
ness, O LORD.

⁷Gracious and upright ¹is the LORD;
therefore he teaches sinners ¹in his way.

⁸**He guides the humble in ¹doing right**
and teaches his way ¹to the lowly.

⁹All the paths of the LORD are ¹love and faithfulness
to those who keep his covenant and his ¹testimonies.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (LBW p. 62)**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

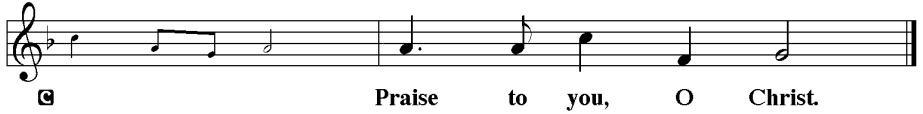
The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”
The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON (LBW p. 83)

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** “Comfort, Comfort Now My People LBW (green) 29

***APOSTLES CREED (LBW p. 64)**

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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**

***THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (LBW p. 65)**

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering (*especially*). In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***PEACE (LBW p. 66)**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE: (LBW p. 66)**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW p. 67)**

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

***DIALOGUE (LBW p. 68)**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

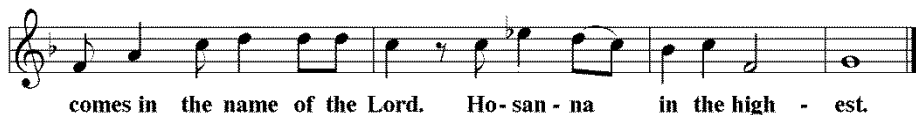
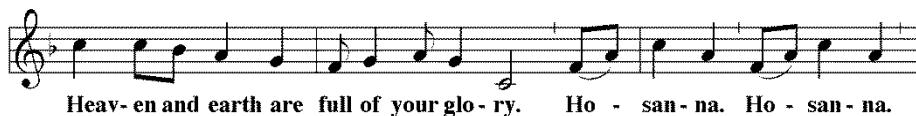
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***PREFACE (LBW p. 68)**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



***THANKSGIVING (LBW p. 70)**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him should not perish,
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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 (LBW p. 71)**

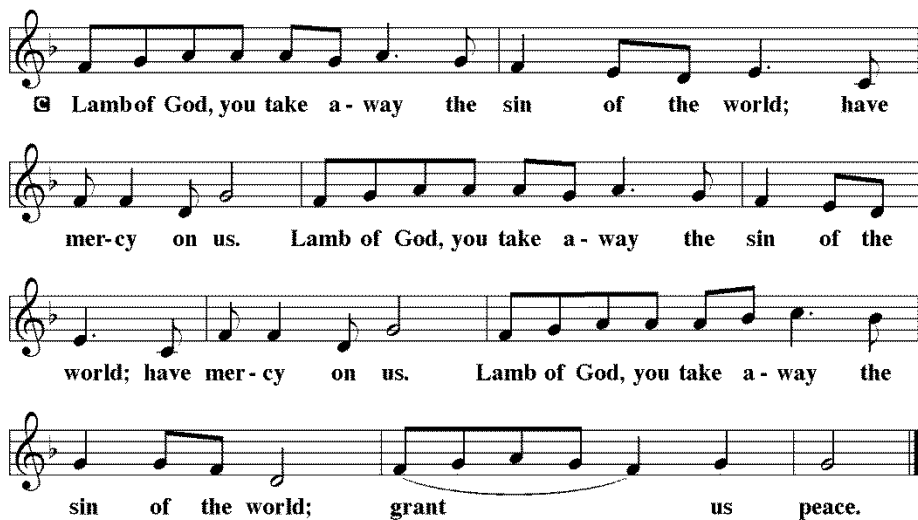
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

***COMMUNION HYMN (LBW p. 72)**



☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION (LBW p. 72)

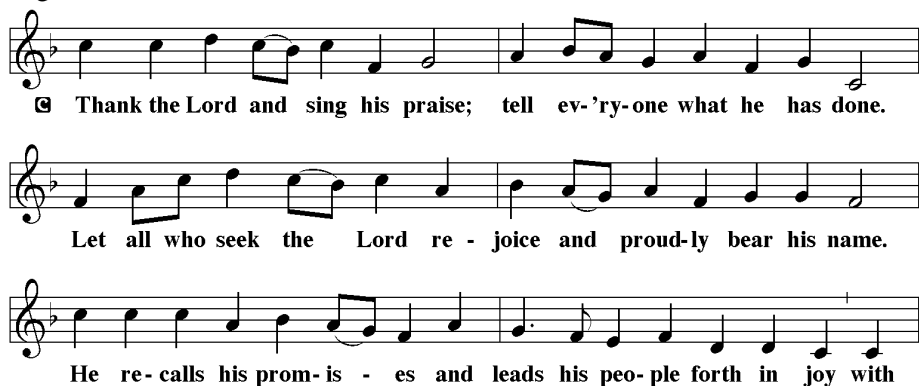
The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN: "Break Now the Bread of Life" LBW (green) 235

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND CANTICLE (LBW p. 72)**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (LBW p.74)

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

***BLESSING (LBW p. 74)**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen

***SENDING HYMN: "O Zion, Haste"**

LBW (green) 397

***DISMISSAL (LBW p. 74)**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Today's communion elements are presented to the Glory of God by Evie Roser.

Today's altar flower arrangement is presented in memory of Donald Batchelor, by Donna Price.

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 12/08/2024

Mal 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79, Phil 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

PRAYER REQUESTS

Glenn and Linda Engler, Marian Williams, Jan Cowart, Tim Myers,
Bonni Whitman, Marion Stephenson, Jon Stiffler, Connie Vanasdale,
Nolan Williams, Linda Beegle, Earl "Stan" Thoman, Shirley Seitz, Sandy Fair,
Diane Moul, LeMos Stallard

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Zion! We are glad you are here today. After worship, you are invited to a time of fellowship with coffee and snacks in the social hall directly beside the sanctuary.

Communion is offered every Sunday. Wine and apple juice are both available. All are welcome.

Services are recorded and streamed live each week on Zion Lutheran Church's Facebook page. It is possible during the recording that people attending the service will be filmed. If you have any concerns about being filmed, please contact the office at 717-235-3276.

Today we welcome Rev. Paul Haack back to lead us in worship.

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8th, immediately after worship. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proposed 2025 budget. Copies of the proposed 2025 budget are available near the table with the bulletins, at the back of the sanctuary.

Gift information is now available for the family Zion sponsored through Southern Community Services' ELVES program. The individual gift tags are displayed on a tree in the Social Hall. Gifts should remain unwrapped. You may purchase wrapping paper for the family to wrap the gifts. All gift donations are due back to Zion by Sunday, 12/8.

CHRISTMAS... a time for giving and sharing! The Christian Education Committee will, once again, be collecting Gifts of Warmth this year (hats, scarves, mittens, etc) to adorn the Christmas tree which is set up in the Upstairs Fellowship Hall. The tree will be available for your donations through January 3, 2025. Donations for children, teens, women, and men are greatly appreciated! All donations will be delivered to nonprofit organizations in the York area at the end of the collection period. Questions may be directed to any member of the committee: Jeff Hoffman, Pam Hoffman, Evelyn Roser, Pam Spangler, Bev Reindollar (Chair). **As we prepare for the birth of our Savior, let us remember the true spirit of the season and share God's bountiful blessings.**

On Wednesday, December 11th, we will make our annual Christmas trek to visit our VIPs. We will leave Zion promptly at 10am so please plan to arrive no later than 9:45am. We'll need a few minutes to organize our drivers and pair up drivers with riders. Please join us if you are able. You'll have a great time and our VIPs will enjoy the company! Any questions, touch base with Diane Bortner.

There are opportunities to sponsor altar flowers in December. Currently, 12/8, 12/15, and 12/29 are available dates to sponsor altar flowers. A reminder that high altar flowers will not be used during Advent due to the figurines placed on the altar. Regular altar flowers cost \$30/arrangement. Contact Brenda in the office at office@zionlenrock.org or 717-235-3276 to request flowers.

Have you been pulling out your cold weather clothes and outerwear since the temperatures started dropping? Please consider donating your unwanted coats, sweatshirts, and sweaters to Coats of Friendship. A box is available in the church social hall for your donations.

The Glen Rock Carolers will be performing a free indoor concert at the New Freedom Senior Center on Sunday, December 8th at 7pm. The New Freedom Senior Center is located at 150 E. Main St, New Freedom, next to Rose Fire Company. The Glen Rock Carolers will also have a free indoor concert at Zion Lutheran Church on Tuesday, December 24th at 10:45pm.

Wreaths Across America dates to remember:

December 14th at 11am at the Glen Rock EMS parking lot for ceremony and then disperse to lay wreaths on graves.

January 11th at 1pm at the Glen Rock Legion for volunteers to remove wreaths from graves.

The Loose Change offering plate is available every Sunday. At the end of the month, the total collected for that month will be sent to the chosen organization.

Our loose change collection for December will benefit the New Freedom Senior Center. Their primary mission is to establish and maintain a senior center by providing programs to facilitate the social, emotional, cultural, economic and physical well-being of senior citizens regardless of race, religion or nationality.

Announcements for the weekly bulletin are due to the office by early Tuesday morning so bulletin work can be completed by the end of the day on Tuesday. This schedule allows time for the bulletin to be sent to the presiding pastor for the upcoming week, and allows the website committee time to post the bulletin on Zion's website. Announcements can be emailed to Brenda at office@zionglenrock.org.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tom Bailey, Jeff Brown, Edgar Davis, Chad Fisher, Rick Freda, Pam Hoffman, Donna Price, and Jen Webb

PERSONNEL here at ZION

Darryl Engler, Organist

Brenda Davis, Administrative Assistant

Kelley Fisher, Treasurer

Allison Fisher, Custodian

Chad Fisher, Sexton

Chad Fisher, Council President.....ckoash6@gmail.com or 717-891-5327

Rick Freda, Council Vice President.....rickfreda@yahoo.com or 302-864-5700

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Assisting Ministers:

Dec 1: Butch Hengst
Dec 8: Diane Bortner
Dec 15: Jeff Hoffman
Dec 22: Donna Price
Dec 24: George Brown
Dec 29: Lessons & Carols

Lectors:

Dec 1: Diane Bortner
Dec 8: George Brown
Dec 15: Pam Hoffman
Dec 22: George Brown
Dec 24: Donna Price
Dec 29: Lessons & Carols

Council Offering Duty:

December – Pam Hoffman and Jeff Brown

Altar Care:

December – Diane Bortner



Zion Lutheran Church

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