

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Second Sunday of Advent
LBW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, December 7, 2025**

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE:**

“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” (LBW 34, verse 2)

***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: “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”**

LBW (green) 25

***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”**

WOV (blue) 626, verse 2

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

ANTHEM: “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

Children’s church dismissal: All children are invited to the Nursery, at this time.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The 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.
- ³ His 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,
- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed 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.
- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den.
- ⁹ They 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.
- ¹⁰ On 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

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

SECOND LESSON: Romans 15:4-13

- ⁴ Whatever 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. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For 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 ancestors ⁹ and 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”;
¹⁰ and again he says,
“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;
¹¹ and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ May 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 (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: Matthew 3:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea,
proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This 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.’ ”

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

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his
baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His 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.

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**the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

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

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease (*especially*). Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith. Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

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.

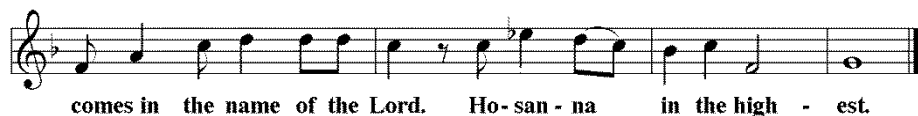
We lift them to the Lord.

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.**

***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 - joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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: “Hark, the Glad Sound!”**

LBW (green) 35

***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.

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 12/14/2025

Isa 35:1-10, Ps 146:5-10, James 5:7-10, Matt 11:2-11

PRAYER REQUESTS

Nellie Hoffman, Keith Copenhaver, James Thompson, Ron Goodling,
Randy Ruth, Joann King, Trey Tomaschko, Lou Tomaschko, Beth Hennessey,
Suzanne Becker, Chad Smith, Brian Phelps, Glenn and Linda Engler,
Tim Myers, Bonni Whitman, Jon Stiffler, Shirley Seitz, Sandy Fair,
Diane Moul

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.

Today we welcome Rev. Carol Bowman to lead us in worship.

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 14th, immediately after worship. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proposed 2026 budget. Copies of the proposed 2026 budget are available near the table with the bulletins, at the back of the sanctuary.

The Glen Rock Carolers will be performing a free indoor concert at the New Freedom Senior Center this evening 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 Wednesday, December 24th at 10:45pm.

Wreaths Across America dates:

Saturday, 12/13 will be the ceremony and laying of wreaths. The program will begin at 11am at the Glen Rock EMS building, located at 59 Water St, Glen Rock, PA.

The removal of wreaths will be Saturday, 1/17/26. We will meet first at the Glen Rock American Legion Post.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Krout at 717-683-3975.

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 December 28, 2025. Donations for children, teens, women, and men are greatly appreciated! All donations will be delivered to Coats of Friendship at the end of the collection period. Questions may be directed to any member of the committee: Jeff Hoffman, Pam Hoffman, Evelyn Roser, and Pam Spangler. **As we prepare for the birth of our Savior, let us remember the true spirit of the season and share God's bountiful blessings.**

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 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 House of Hope.** House of Hope is a biblically based program that offers a residential home for teen girls ages 14-17, as well as counseling services for families, individuals, and couples. The goal is to provide healing and restoration through individual and family counseling combined with education, recreation, life skills, and spiritual growth.

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.

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.

PERSONNEL here at ZION

- Darryl Engler, Organist
- Brenda Davis, Administrative Assistant
- Kelley Fisher, Treasurer
- 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

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Assisting Ministers:

December 7: Donna Price
December 14: George Brown
December 21: Butch Hengst
December 24: Jeff Hoffinan
December 28: Lessons and Carols

Lectors:

December 7: Linda Beegle
December 14: Nate Rogers
December 21: Jen Webb
December 24: Kelley Fisher
December 28: Lessons and Carols

Council Offering Duty:

December – Donna Price and Gail Prego

Altar Care:

December – Linda Beegle

2025 FINANCIAL Information for YOU

2025 Total Budget Approved by the Congregation: \$107,754.40

2025 Weekly contribution goal to cover budget expenses: \$2,072.20

2025 Contributions and Expenses, as of 11/30/2025

Regular Contributions \$ 88,427.86

Other Contributions/Gifts +\$ 6,665.00

Contributions to cover Expenses \$ 95,092.86

Expenses: \$ 99,559.94



Zion Lutheran Church

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