

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Second Sunday of Advent
LBW Holy Communion Setting One
Sunday, December 8, 2024**

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

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: “Blessed Be the God of Israel”

FIRST LESSON: Malachi 3:1-4

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty savior for us
in the house of his servant David,

⁷⁰ as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

⁷¹ that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all
who hate us.

⁷² Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,

⁷³ the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,

to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness
before him all our days.

⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.

⁷⁸ By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,

⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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 3:1-6

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



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

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

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON (LBW p. 83)

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** “Come, O Precious Ransom”

LBW (green) 24

***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.

Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering (*especially*). Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship committees, music ensembles, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***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



COMMUNION (LBW p. 72)

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

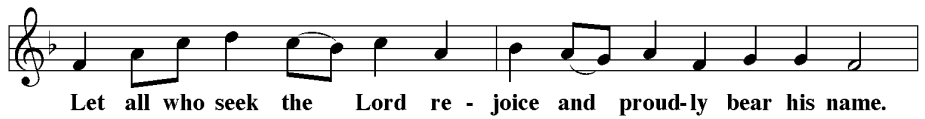
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN: “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LBW (green) 226

***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**



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.

Today’s altar flower arrangement is presented in honor of the members who serve on church council, by Kelley Fisher.

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 12/15/2024

Zeph 3:14-20, Isa 12:2-6, Phil 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18

PRAYER REQUESTS

Glenn and Linda Engler, Marian Williams, Jan Cowart, Tim Myers,
Bonni Whitman, Marion Stephenson, Jon Stiffler, Connie Vanasdale,
Nolan Williams, 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.

There will be a congregational meeting immediately after worship today.

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.

The Glen Rock Carolers will be performing a free indoor concert at the New Freedom Senior Center tonight 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.

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.

The Well is preparing Christmas food boxes for local families. Zion is being asked to donate 15 boxes of stuffing mix and 6 cans of cranberry sauce. **All items are due by next Sunday, 12/15. Please contact Susie Hengst if you can**

Thank you to everyone who purchased gifts for the children of our sponsored family through Southern Community Services.

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.**

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.

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 8: Diane Bortner
Dec 15: Jeff Hoffman
Dec 22: Donna Price
Dec 24: George Brown
Dec 29: Lessons & Carols
Jan 5: Joy Keller-Brown
Jan 12: Pam Hoffman
Jan 19: Butch Hengst
Jan 26: Diane Bortner

Lectors:

Dec 8: George Brown
Dec 15: Pam Hoffman
Dec 22: George Brown
Dec 24: Donna Price
Dec 29: Lessons & Carols
Jan 5: Jake Gilroy
Jan 12: Linda Beegle
Jan 19: Jen Webb
Jan 26: Kelley Fisher

Council Offering Duty:

December – Pam Hoffman and Jeff Brown
January – Rick Freda and Chad Fisher

Altar Care:

December – Diane Bortner
January – Donna Price



Zion Lutheran Church

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