

**Zion Lutheran Church  
Glen Rock, PA  
Third Sunday of Advent  
LBW Setting One  
Sunday, December 12, 2021**

\*We stand as we are able.

**Introduction to the day**

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

\***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE:**

**"Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" (LBW 34, verse 3)**

\***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**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

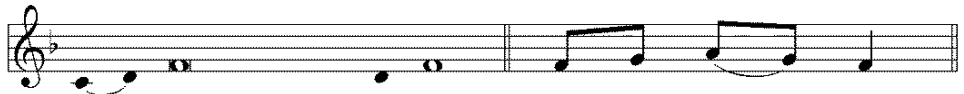
**\*ENTRANCE HYMN: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" LBW 30 vs. 1, 2**

**\*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)**



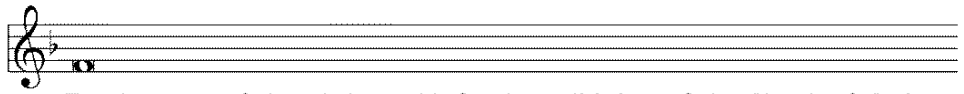
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.




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



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.




**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



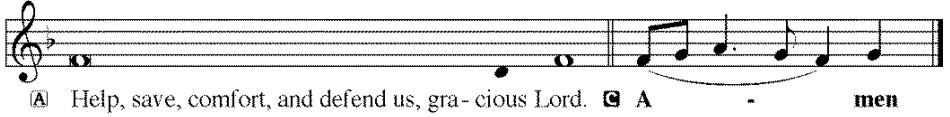
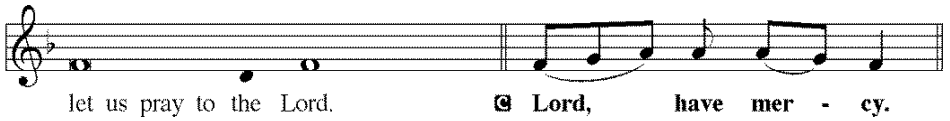
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



**\*HYMN OF PRAISE: “People Look East” (WOV 626, verse 3)**

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

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you once called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son and to prepare his way. Grant us, your people, the wisdom to see your purpose today and the openness to hear your will, that we may witness to Christ’s coming and so prepare his way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

**FIRST LESSON: Zephaniah 3:14-20**

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

<sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>The LORD, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing

<sup>18</sup>as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,

so that you will not bear reproach for it.

<sup>19</sup>I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

<sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Isaiah 12:2-6 (This is not a responsive reading.)**

<sup>2</sup>Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say  
in that day:

Give thanks to the LORD,  
call on his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations;  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**SECOND LESSON: Philippians 4:4-7**

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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. <sup>9</sup>Even 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.”

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” <sup>13</sup>He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S TIME AND SERMON (LBW p. 83)**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY: “On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry”**

**LBW 36 vs. 1, 4**

**\*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)**

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace to congregations and seminarians in the midst of transition. Guide the work of candidacy and call committees. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, your Spirit brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Breathe life into us, that we are inspired to live in harmony with one another and the planet. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Shepherding God, you lead your people in paths of righteousness. Raise up prophets in our own day who warn against captivity to greed and point us to the freedom found in generosity. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing God, you come near in times of worry and need. Cradle us in your arms, that we trust you and are not afraid. Attend to any who are hungry, imprisoned, or ill this day (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing God, you exult over us in singing. Enliven the song of this assembly and bless the ministry of church musicians. With instruments and dance, join our voices to the song of all creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for your servants who showed us your goodness and grace. By the power of your Spirit, keep us steadfast in faith until we make our home with you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Staying in your pew, please exchange the peace with those around you as appropriate. Wave to folks in other pews.*

**\*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: (LBW p. 75)**

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -  
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

**\*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**

**\*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.**

**\*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  $\text{†}$  give you peace.

**Amen**

**\*SENDING HYMN: “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”**

**LBW 25 vs. 1, 2**

**POSTLUDE**

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

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Today’s altar flowers are presented by Tom & Pam Spangler to the Glory of God.



## SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 12/19/21

Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:46b-55, Heb 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45[46-55]

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Kelly Allen, Kristi McCullough King, Warren Laughman, Randy McCullough,  
Don Miller, Brian Phelps, Gloria & Jim Ream, Diane Smith,  
LeMos & Susette Stallard, Karl & Annette Steger

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Services are videotaped and streamed live each week.** It is possible during recording that people attending the service will be filmed. If you have any concern about being filmed, please contact the office at 717-235-3276.

**A Congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship today.** The current agenda items are the 2022 budget and discussion about the worship time. Printed copies of the proposed 2022 budget are available at the back of the sanctuary.

**At the regular meeting of the Council on Monday, 12/6, the Council, recognizing a spike in Covid cases in York County, voted to suspend social time until after the holiday season, and strongly recommends wearing masks the whole time you are in the church building.**

**The family of Rose (Chandler) Bell invites you to send Christmas greetings to Rose this holiday season.** Cards and letters can be sent to: RoseJean Bell #117, Fox Subacute, 120 S. Filbert St., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

**CHRISTMAS... a time for giving and sharing! The Christian Education Committee will be collecting Gifts of Warmth** once again this year (hats, scarves, mittens, etc.) to adorn our Christmas Tree which will be set up in the Upstairs Fellowship Hall. The tree will be set up December 5 through January 2, 2022. Although all donations for children, teens, women, and men are greatly appreciated, there is a great need for hats, scarves, gloves and socks for men, particularly large sizes. All donations will be delivered to the Salvation Army in York at the end of the collection period. **As we prepare for the birth of our Savior, let us remember the true spirit of the season and share God's bountiful blessings.** We understand that these are difficult times and that donations may not be as fruitful this year. In speaking with a representative of the Salvation Army, they were thrilled to learn that we will be continuing this tradition and remember Zion with grateful hearts. Questions may be directed to any member of the Committee: Lois Goodling, Jeff Hoffman, Pam Hoffman,

Bill Ream, Gloria Ream, Jim Ream, Pam Spangler, Bev Reindollar, Chair, Evelyn Roser.

**Christmas Eve Service will begin at 7pm at Zion on Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>.**  
There will be no Carolers' Concert at Zion on Christmas Eve.

**Upcoming Lectors:**

- Dec. 12 – Jen Webb
- Dec. 19 – Sandy Fair
- Dec. 24 – George Brown

**Council Offering Duty:**

December – Rick Freda and Susie Hengst

**Altar Care:**

December – Diane Bortner and Donna Price

**If you desire pastoral care or conversation, please contact Pastor Katie Brantner at 717-420-0779.**

**PERSONNEL here at ZION**

- Pastor Paul Haack, Stated Sunday Supply Pastor
- Pastor Katie Brantner, Interim Pastoral Care Coordinator...717-420-0779
- Darryl Engler, Organist
- Brenda Davis, Administrative Assistant
- Natalie Walker, Custodian
- Chad Fisher, Sexton.....717-891-5327
- Donna Price, Council President.....717-235-5465

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Donna Price, Joy Keller-Brown, Tom Bailey, Susan Hengst, George Brown, Carrie Miller, Edgar Davis and Gevene Harden, Rick Freda

## FINANCIAL Information for YOU

### Weekly Contributions and Expenses

**2021 Weekly contribution goal to cover budget expenses: \$2,471.00**

12/5/2021 Regular Contributions \$ 3,726.00

Other Contributions/Gifts +\$ 0.00

-\$ 260.00 *Dedicated Dollars*

\$ 3,466.00 Contributions to cover Expenses

Weekly Expenses: \$ 0.00

### Cumulative Contributions and Expenses for 2021

Regular Contributions \$ 97,291.29

Other Contributions/Gifts + \$ 14,477.61

*Dedicated Dollars* - \$ 24,581.23

Contributions to cover Expenses \$ 87,187.67

Expenses to date: \$ 101,423.02



**Zion Lutheran Church**

47 Hanover Street

Glen Rock, PA 17327

Office Phone: 717-235-3276

Website: [www.zionglenrock.org](http://www.zionglenrock.org)

Email: [office@zionglenrock.org](mailto:office@zionglenrock.org)