

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Nativity of Our Lord
LBW Holy Communion Setting One
Wednesday, December 24, 2025**

*We stand as we are able.

Introduction to the day

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

PRELUDE MUSIC:

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

"Dona Nobis Pacem"

"Mary Did You Know?" – Jim Hoffman

"Vom Himmel Hoch"

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" – Jim Hoffman

"The Star of Bethlehem"

"Still, Still, Still" – Jim Hoffman

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

"Away in a Manger" – Jim Hoffman

"Sing of Mary" – Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BLESSING OF THE NATIVITY SCENE**

O Lord our God, with Mary and Joseph, angels and shepherds, and the animals. in the stable, we gather around your Son, born for us. Bless us with your holy presence and inspire us to help those who have no place to dwell. Be with us that we might share Christ's love with all the world, for he is our light and salvation. Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever.

Amen.

***ENTRANCE HYMN:** “O, Come, All Ye Faithful”

LBW (green) 45

***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:** “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LBW (green) 60

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

ANTHEM: “Before the Marvel of This Night” - Choir

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 96

- ¹Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, all | the whole earth.
- ²**Sing to the LORD and | bless his name;
proclaim the good news of his salvation from | day to day.**
- ³Declare his glory a- | mong the nations
and his wonders a- | mong all peoples.
- ⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised;
he is more to be feared | than all gods.**
- ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but it is the LORD who | made the heavens.
- ⁶**Oh, the majesty and magnificence | of his presence!
Oh, the power and the splendor of his | sanctuary!**
- ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples;
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.
- ⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor | due his name;
bring offerings and come in- | to his courts.**
- ⁹Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
let the whole earth trem- | ble before him.
- ¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: “The | LORD is king!
He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will
judge the peo- | ples with equity.”**
- ¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and
all | that is in it;
let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.
- ¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD |
when he comes,
when he comes to | judge the earth.**
- ¹³He will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with his truth.

SECOND LESSON: Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

LBW (green) 50, vs. 1, 2

***GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.



¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

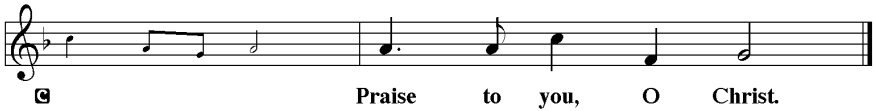
⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you:

you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”
¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

[¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON (LBW p. 63)

***HYMN OF THE NIGHT:** “It Came upon the Midnight Clear” LBW 54

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

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen

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

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war. Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another, especially those who are sick or struggling (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, that all find shelter and warmth. We pray especially for youth seeking safety and care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING: "All is Well" – Choir

Ushers will be passing the offering plates during this time.

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** "What Child Is This" LBW (green) 40 vs. 1, 2

***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.

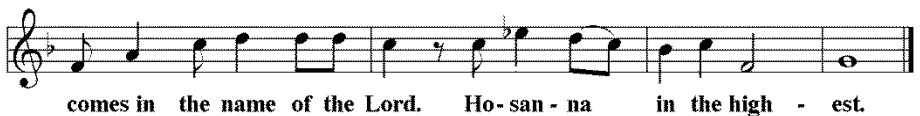
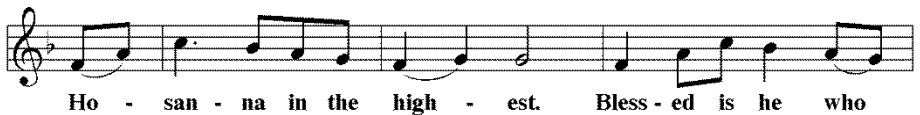
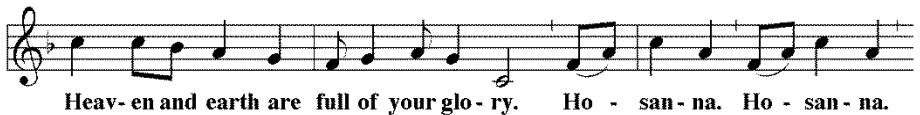
We lift them to the Lord.

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, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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: “Away in the Manger” LBW (green) 67
“The First Noel” LBW 56, vs 1 & 2

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

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

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:** “Angels We Have Heard on High”
LBW (green) 71

***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

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES:**

Arise, shine; for your light has come:

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth

And the thick darkness the peoples.

But the Lord will arise upon you.

And his glory will be seen upon you.

And the nations shall come to your light.

***SPECIAL HYMNS:**

“O Holy Night” – Butch Hengst

“Silent Night, Holy Night!” (Please sing along)

LBW (green) 65

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he that follows me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life.

Glory to God in the highest

Let your light so shine before all.

That they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Let us pray. O God, who has made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant, that as we have known on earth the mysteries of that light, we may also come to the fullness of his joys in heaven, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **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

***HYMN:** “Joy to the World” LBW (green) 39

DISMISSAL (LBW p. 74)

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

POSTLUDE

Tonight’s communion elements are presented to the Glory of God.

This evening’s altar flowers are presented in honor of Nicolas Prego’s birthday, and in memory of David Seitz, by Shirley Seitz.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Glenn Ort, 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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR THIS EVENING

Pastor.....	Rev. Paul Haack
Assisting Minister.....	Jeff Hoffman
Lector.....	Kelley Fisher
Organist/Music Director.....	Darryl Engler
Musician.....	Jim Hoffman
Soloist.....	Butch Hengst

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

- ❖ **During communion we offer both wine and apple juice.**
- ❖ **Restrooms** are located on this level on the opposite side of the Upstairs Fellowship Area close to the steps on the right-hand side of the stage, and in the hallway at the top of the steps on the left-hand side of the stage.
- ❖ **We have two rockers in the back of the sanctuary** for those who may need a different seating option other than a pew. Please feel free to use the rockers as you need.
- ❖ The Nursery is available for use but not staffed tonight.
- ❖ **We hope you find us gracious and welcoming** on behalf of the Lord Jesus Christ. Join us again on Sunday mornings at 9am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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

Dedications

Poinsettias ~ In Honor Of:

Tracy Cowart & Trisha Cowart, by Trent Cowart

Poinsettias ~ In Memory Of:

Jan Cowart, by Trent Cowart

Ruth & Nevin Hunt, by the family

Lillian & Spurgeon Hunt, by the family

George & Arlene Brown, by George Brown

Joy Keller-Brown, by George Brown

Paul Sr. and Anna Margaret Shepperd, by Paul Shepperd III

Paul Jr. and Mardella Shepperd, by Paul Shepperd III

My parents, Kenneth & Alice Day, by Barb Muggio

My sisters, Loretta Dell & Joyce Gemmill, by Barb Muggio

World Hunger ~ In Honor Of:

Shirley Seitz, by Joan Nelson, Gail, Alex & Nic Prego

Volunteer Drivers from Zion, by Evelyn Roser

My daughters, Joan & Gail, by Shirley Seitz

My grandsons, Alex & Nic, by Shirley Seitz

World Hunger ~ In Memory Of:

David Seitz, by Joan Nelson, Gail, Alex & Nic Prego

John & Phyllis Prego, by Gail, Alex & Nic Prego

Janet Steedle McCullough, by Gail, Alex & Nic Prego

Bev Reindollar, by Evelyn Roser

My husband, Dave, by Shirley Seitz

Ruth & Bowden Stake, by Shirley Seitz

Nora & Sherman Seitz, by Shirley Seitz

Shirley & Philip Stake, by Shirley Seitz

Phyllis & John Prego, by Shirley Seitz

Sherman Seitz Jr, by Shirley Seitz

William & Gloria Krout, by Tom & Pam Spangler

Clyde & Hilda Spangler, by Tom & Pam Spangler

Beverly & Jeff Krout, by Tom & Pam Spangler

Greg Krout, by Tom & Pam Spangler

Beverly Reindollar, by Tom & Pam Spangler



Zion Lutheran Church

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