

Sunday Worship
November 30, 2025

HOPE



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time, will you please fill out a visitor card, available in the pew rack in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate. Whether this is your first visit or you worship here regularly, we are delighted that you chose to share with us. We worship together on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you have a “prayer request” or a “praise report”, please let the pastor know. God bless you on your journey of faith.

INTRODUCTION

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today’s readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord’s coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE - Bells

The Coventry Carol

Arr. Organ

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS James 5:16; 1John 1:8-9

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive 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.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #260 (v 1-3)

The King Shall Come

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY 2 Corinthians 13:13

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . .

C: **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - ELW #240

Light one candle to watch for Messiah

Let the light banish darkness

He shall bring salvation to Israel,

God fulfills the promise

SPECIAL MUSIC - Bells

Still, Still, Still

Arr: Organ

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

R: ²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 122

R: ¹ I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."

C: ² **Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

R: ³ Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

C: ⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

R: ⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

C: ⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.**

R: ⁷ Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

C: ⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.**

R: ⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good."

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

R: ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

R: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Red Hymnal #257 (v 1 & 7) Isaiah 7:14

**O Come O Come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one:
Refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Gospel according to **Matthew 24:36-44**

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: [Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days

before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Dale Schaefer

HYMN Purple Hymnal #949 *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

APOSTLE’S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.
C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.**

PRAYERS (*Response after each petition*) 1 Timothy 2:1-2

P: Lord in your mercy,
C: **Hear our prayer . . .**

OFFERING—Invitation—God’s Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG #188 *Create in Me a Clean Heart* Psalm 51:10-12

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit.

COMMUNION PREFACE #107 & 108

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts

C: **We lift them to the Lord**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYERS WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

(This liturgy comes from Hippolytus who was a bishop in Rome writing around 215 AD. Hippolytus was recording the liturgy as it had been practiced up to that point, having been handed down by the apostles. Today we are celebrating communion as it was celebrated over 1800 years ago!)

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *(All who confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.)*

BLESSING Numbers 6:23-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN Red hymnal #244 (v 1-3)

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

DISMISSAL Luke 7:50

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?

C: **The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is:
“Serving Christ through serving others.”**

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

Arr. Callahan

*The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God
by Dennis & Maureen Jacoby in memory of their parents.*

*Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted
using a 'Prayer Request' card from the pew rack.*

In Helpful Service

Pastor	Dale Schaefer
Communion Assist	Doug Jacobs
Reader	Joyce Luther
Ushers	Bob & Deb Keppel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN OF ZION CHRISTMAS DINNER: If you have made reservations, the dinner is **THIS Thursday, December 4th, 6:00 pm**

MISSION OF THE MONTH: ELCA GOOD GIFTS

On the Christmas tree in the narthex, you will find ornaments that have pictures of animals and other needed items for those in need throughout the world. For example, you may pay for ten chicks for \$10, honeybees for \$20, seeds and gardening tools for \$50, a clinic visit for a child for \$10. You can also donate any amount of money and the Women of Zion can put the money toward a more expensive animal - like a goat for \$50!

Please take an ornament and return it with a check made payable to Women of Zion. Please place your check in the basket on the table in the narthex by December 31st. Any questions contact Deb Keppel.

A FLOWER CHART for 2026 has been posted. The cost is \$45 for 2 bouquets again. Please indicate what they are in celebration or memory of and the colors you want. We can only chose colors, not the type of flower.

2026 CALENDARS are available in in the Narthex. The cost is \$15. There is an envelope on the table for the money. Proceeds go to youth gathering fund.

ADVENT SCHEDULE:

Advent Service	December 10th	6:00 pm
Christmas Eve Service	December 24th	7:00 pm

CHEER PLATES are being put together on Monday, December 15th at 10:00 am. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hallway to donate food, assemble the plates and deliver them.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - December 7th after service. Pizza, crafts, gingerbread house competition, break out room. The gingerbread house contest winner will not only get bragging rights at Zion, but will also get a \$10 gift card to Rad Candy Sign up in the fellowship hallway.

ZION’S 200TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2026 On the table in the narthex there are two forms; a schedule for the activities planned for 2026 and a member questionnaire. Please fill out the questionnaire and place it in the box on the table. Thanks!

THIS WEEK AT ZION

Sunday, November 30	Storypoint (Randall) Outreach	
Monday, December 1	10:30 am	Mission Quilts
	3:30 pm	TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
	6:00 pm	Property Meeting
Tuesday, December 2	10:00 am	Mission Quilts
	8:00 pm	AA
Wednesday, December 3	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, December 4	6:00 pm	Women of Zion Dinner
Sunday, November 7	Christmas Party after service	

Staff

Jaren Summers, *Pastor*; Bill Jones & Susie Gray, *Choir Directors*;
Lori Sebastian, *Organist*; Jessica Dorn, *Christian Education Director*;
Annette Calicoat, *Office Admin*; Sue Rambeau, *Treasurer*;
Tina Putnam, *Custodian*