# We have all received, grace upon grace

JOHN 1:16

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Remembering those who have requested prayer: Louise Fadely Eason, Tim Harlow,... Continued Prayer...Wanda Ballenger, Pastor Bill Ballance, Steve Baker, Skip Barton, Pastor Jim & Peggy Baseler, Tara Bowers, Steve & Linda Campbell, Leannah Comer, Lori Dau, Burgess Dellinger, Roe Dias, Karen Doane, Ronnie Dodson, Judy & Kevin Dysart, Carla Eickenhorst,

Virginia Estep, Shelby Eye, Landon & Mary Fadely, Diane Funkhouser, Ronnie Funkhouser, Kim George, Sophia Gibb, Denise Glick, Peggy Graff, Elena

Green, Podge Green, Belle Hamman, Martha Harlow, Rebecca Harlow, Betty Helsley, Susan Holsinger, Alan & Pat Hoyle, Linda Kosek, Dana LaFever, Rob Lanham, Jerri Lippert, Wade Ludwig, Toby Markley, Keith Manich, Ron

Moomaw, Jerry Newland, Anna Nilsen, Ray Orndorff, Bob & Jane Perry, Tom & Linda Perry, Karen Polk, Judy & Jerry Polk, Larry Polk, Shalyn Polk, Danny Richcreek, Dennis Rigby, Julia Ritter, Steve Ritenour, Laurie Robinson, Linda Ryman, Wayne Shaffer, Jillian Shirkey, Edward Sine, Larry Smoot, Jeffrey Taylor, Mark Viola, Doris Weaver, Gary Wilkins, John Wymer, and Christine Zuniga.

# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

#### Next Sunday: January 12 – Baptism of Our Lord

8:30 Worship will be a Service of the Word at St. Jacob's.
9:45 Adult Sunday School meets at both churches.
11:00 Worship will be a Service of the Word at Zion, followed by a Congregational Meeting
Call- in worship is always offered at the 11:00 service.
Conference call: (425) 436-6395 Toll Free: (844)-854-2222
Access Code: 377656 #

## **DID YOU KNOW ?**

Paul was a tentmaker

# <u>A LITTLE HUMOR</u>

What animal did Noah find it difficult to trust? The cheetah

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today:** St. Jacob's will have a Congregational Meeting following worship to discuss the possibility of selling a portion of land inherited from Stanly Helsley. We hope you'll stay!

Zion Council will meet at 5:30 on Monday, January 6...weather permitting.

**Spring Forward** will resume on Tuesday at 4PM, weather permitting. We always follow what the SC Public Schools decisions with regards to school cancellation and early release. We're happy to report our registrations have continued to increase and we're blessed with faithful tutors. For more information, call Jane Perry (540) 477-2088, for more information.

**Wednesday in the Word,** our weekly Bible Study will meet January 8, from 6-7:30 PM, weather permitting. We will be starting a study of Leviticus, a book of the Old Testament that has much to teach us about the Holiness of our God.

It's that time of year....What is the plan when bad weather comes our way? We have people in both our churches who live close and make the call about road and parking lot conditions. If the decision is made to not worship in-person, you still have the option of dialing into the 11 AM Call-In service with the numbers provided in this bulletin. How will I know if the churches are closed? You can call Zion's answering machine (540-984-8764) and listen to the message, or watch WHSV Channel 3, check our website or Facebook page, or call Janet Monroe (540-984-8256) or Steve Heishman (540-325-4593). Above all, we want you to make the best decision for your own health and safety!

Luke's Backpack "Foodraiser" - As the days have gotten "chili" and you are "stewing" about the "souper" bowl, consider donating cans of chili, beef stew or soup to help replenish our shelves. Please leave your donations on the front pew at either church from now until February 9. Be assured that each and every can/box/pouch helps every bag that goes home to feed our students. Thank you for supporting this outreach!

**The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM)** invites young adults (21-35) into a transformative, year-long journey in intentional service with our partners in countries around the world. Applications are currently being received through February 1. Currently Virginia Synod has two young adults serving in Cambodia. If you know of a young adult who might be interested in considering this opportunity, please let Pastor Katie know.



# **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

## St. Jacob's Lutheran Church January 5, 2025 + 11 AM

Welcome- Blessed New Year and Happy 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas! Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and

of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 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. **Amen.** 

## Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, 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.

#### Assurance and Forgiveness

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called, 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 + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**  Gathering Hymn ELW 275 Angels from the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

**Refrain:** Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light. **Refrain** 



Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great Desire of nations, you have seen his natal star. **Refrain** 

All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.

Refrain

## **Apostolic Greeting**

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.** 

#### **Canticle of Praise**

**Refrain:** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (**Refrain**)

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Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

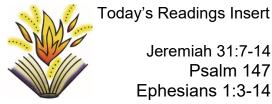
(Refrain)

(Refrain)

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (Refrain)

**Prayer of the Day** 

God's Word



Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147 Ephesians 1:3-14

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#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, Alleluia, Alleluia,

#### **Prayer of Illumination**

Holy Spirit, fire and wisdom of God, enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading and proclamation of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

John 1:1-18

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st Chapter beginning with the 1<sup>st</sup> verse...Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord. + Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

#### The Reading



## Hymn of the Day ELW 487 What Feast of Love

What feast of love is offered here, What banquet come from heaven? What food of everlasting life, What gracious gift is given? This, this is Christ the King, the bread come down from heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here, What covenant from heaven? What hope of everlasting life, What wondrous word is given? This, this is Christ the King, The sun come down from heaven. Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here, What crimson drink from heaven? What stream of everlasting life, What precious blood is given? This, this is Christ the King, The sweetest wine of heaven. Oh, taste and se and sing! The Son of God is given!

Nicene Creed - We speak together the words of 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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,

who with the Father and the Son

is worshiped and glorified,

who 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.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.



#### **Offering Prayer**

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know Your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

## **Offertory Hymn**

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.

+ Service of Holy Communion +

## **Great Thanksgiving**

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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God.

through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. (Page 108)



+ Words of Consecration +

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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** 

Christ invites you....Come, taste, and see.



#### **Partaking of Communion**

In the sanctuary, we will commune at the altar railing. Those at home are invited to commune at the beginning, as the Pastor invites them.

**Prayer after Communion** 

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal You have drawn us to Your heart, and nourished us at Your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be Your people in the world, and to proclaim Your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

**Blessing** 

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, + and give you peace. **Amen** 

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

**Refrain:** Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. **Refrain** 

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. **Refrain** 

Then entered in those wise men three, full rev'rently upon the knee, and offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh, and frankincense. **Refrain** 

#### Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

#### Sending

Go in peace with the joy of Christ in your heart! Thanks be to God.



#### Psalm, continued

<sup>17</sup>God scatters | hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold? <sup>18</sup>The LORD sends forth the <sup>1</sup> word and melts them;

the wind blows, and the <sup>1</sup> waters flow.

#### Second Reading

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set

#### Gospel

[In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was <sup>19</sup>God declares the <sup>1</sup> word to Jacob, statutes and judg-1 ments to Israel. <sup>20</sup>The LORD has not done so to any other nation;

they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

or Wisdom 10:15-21 [not printed]

#### Ephesians 1:3-14

forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

#### John 1:[1-9] 10-18

his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.



#### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **First Reading**

Thus says the LORD:

#### Jeremiah 31:7-14

say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,

<sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,

strong for him.

height of Zion,

the herd;

and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

and has redeemed him from hands too

<sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the

and they shall be radiant over the

over the grain, the wine, and the oil,

goodness of the LORD,

and over the young of the flock and

their life shall become like a watered garden,

and they shall never languish again.

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations: proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." <sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come,

and with consolations I will lead them back.

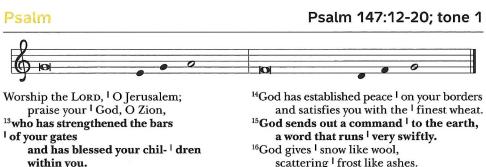
I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;

for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away;

#### <sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

#### or Sirach 24:1-12 [not printed]



continued

TODAY'S READINGS January 5, 2025

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7: Psalm 29: Acts 8:14-17: Luke 3:15-17. 21-22.

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