

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH PEMBROKE
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP - SERVICE OF THE WORD
DECEMBER 29 2024**

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 211)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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.

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.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (ELW 288)

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866. Text: Public Domain.

GREETING (ELW p. 213)

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 (ELW p. 213)



CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 213)

Refrain

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we
 wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Final refrain

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on
 earth, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 215)

Let us pray.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Special Music – Piano Solo - Blaine Sack – ‘*The Father’s Love Blooming*,’

music by Ruth Elaine Schram

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

A reading from 1 Samuel.

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord”; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 148

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

² **Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

³ Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

⁴ **Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord who commanded, and they were created,

⁶ **who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

⁷ Praise the Lord you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸ **fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God’s will;**

⁹ mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰ **wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹ **sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;**

¹² **young men and maidens, old and young together.**

¹³ Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17

A reading from Colossians.

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 216)

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy

Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (ELW p. 217)

HYMN OF THE DAY *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* (ACS 913) (WINCHESTER OLD)

1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

2 "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind:
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and humankind.

3 "To you, in David's town this day,
is born of David's line
the Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
and this shall be the sign:

4 "The heav'nly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all humbly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid."

5 Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

6 "All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will to all from highest heav'n
begin and never cease!"

Text: Nahum Tate, 1652–1715. Text: Public Domain.

THE APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 217)
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 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 OF INTERCESSION

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of your church. Guide Sunday school teachers, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders in our ongoing faith formation and curiosity. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise up rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

For the well-being of your people, we pray. Keep watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill (*especially Jason, Martha, Ella, Rhonda, Heather, Anneliese, Joan, Judy, Larry, Garnet, Betty, Lily, Karl, Elva, Clarence, Eva, Barbara, Inga, Marcella, Patricia, Amy, Edie, Freda, Otilia, Kirk, Joan, David*). Be with those who mourn this night. Especially we pray for the family and friends of Aileen Roesler and Maurice (Pat) Walsh as they grieve their deaths. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

For the ministry of this place, we pray. Let the word of Christ dwell among us. In times of conflict, clothe us in love and move us to forgiveness. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

For your holy, beloved, and chosen ones of every time and place, we give thanks. Draw us all into everlasting praise and joy. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 218)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING *Love Has Come* (ELW 292) verses 1 and 3

1 Love has come--a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

3 Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950. Text © 1996 Living the Natural Way, admin. Music Services, Brentwood, TN. Used by permission. CCLI License # 11528343.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

Amen.

CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise* (Nelson) (ELW 207)

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves of music, each with a line of lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests.

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD (ELW p. 220) Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 221)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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 (ELW p. 221)

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.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Cold December Flies Away* (ELW 299)

1 Cold December flies away
at the rose-red splendor.
April's crowning glory breaks
while the whole world wonders
at the holy unseen pow'r
of the tree which bears the flow'r.
On the blessed tree
blossoms the reddest flow'r.
On the tree blossoms the rose
here in love's own garden,
full and strong in glory.

2 In the hopeless time of sin
shadows deep had fallen.
All the world lay under death.
Eyes were closed in sleeping.
But, when all seemed lost in night,
came the sun whose golden light
brings unending joy,
brings the endless joy
of our hope, highest hope,
of our hope's bright dawning,
Son belov'd of heaven.

3 Now the bud has come to bloom,
and the world awakens.
In the lily's purest flow'r
dwells a wondrous fragrance.
And it spreads to all the earth
from the moment of its birth;
and its beauty lives.
In the flow'r it lives,
in the flow'r, and it spreads
in its heav'nly brightness
sweet perfume delightful.

Text: Catalanian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. One License #A-728050.

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 222)

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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ZION ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: December 30th – January 5th

Sunday January 5 10:00 am Worship Service

TODAY’S SCHEDULED WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Music Director:	Blaine Sack
Worship Leader:	Wayne Kirk
Sexton:	Karen Gauthier
Projector Operator:	Philip Vandersleen
Video Recorder:	Ellen Vandersleen
Sound Operator:	Gerry Vandersleen
Counters:	Lisa Campitelli, Karen Gauthier, David Lehman
Altar Care:	Don Boldt
Ushers:	Cheryl Sack, Barry Gorr

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray for those who are ill, in hospital, or requested special prayers: Jason Godin, Martha Kodzynski, Ella Lehman, Rhonda Mau, Heather Miller, Anneliese Trautrim, Joan Lehman, Judy and Larry Blais, Garnet Miller, Betty Kuehl, Lily Kubiseski, Karl Hausser, Elva & Clarence Gagne, Eva Hagenah, Barbara Schoof, Inga Latiok, Marcella Kuehl, Patricia Zohr, Amy Markus-Burgess, Edie Brum, Freda Kathen, Otilia Saldana G, Kirk Weichenthal, Joan LaForce, David Brumm.

Please continue to pray for the family and friends of Aileen Roesler who passed December 23. The funeral will be held at Zion Lutheran Church **Saturday January 18 at 11:00 am.**

Please also continue to pray for Caroline Walsh and her family as they continue to mourn the passing of her husband Maurice (Paddy) Walsh on December 23. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date..

MESSY CHURCH Our next Messy Church will be **Monday January 6th at 5:30 pm.**

ZLW The next meeting of the ZLW will be **Wednesday January 8th at 2:30 pm.**

CONFIRMATION Our next Confirmation class will be **Wednesday January 8th at 6:15 pm.**

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee is looking for 2 people that would be interested in joining The Endowment Committee. If you are interested and would like further information, please call Sandra Sell at 613 735- 5593 or leave a message with the church office.

NOTES FROM WORSHIP & MUSIC

Altar Care: We are once again looking for volunteers for Altar Care. If you are interested or would like to know what it entails, please call Sandra Graham at (613) 732-3260.

ATTENDANCE:

Sunday, December 22, 2024:

137

Sunday, December 24, 2024:

3:00 pm: 217 7:00 pm: 112

CONTACT INFORMATION

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