

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
NOVEMBER 27 2022
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* (ELW 435)

1 Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
join to sing the glad refrain:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

2 Now redemption, long-expected,
comes in solemn splendor near;
all the saints this world rejected
thrill the trumpet sound to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
See the day of God appear!

3 Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
claim the kingdom as thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Text: Public Domain.

REETING (ELW p. 138)

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.138)

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.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: ADVENT 1

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and

prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen.

Light the first candle.

He Came Down (ELW 253) verse 1

1 He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

Text: Cameroon traditional. Text: Public Domain.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

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.

JOINT CHOIR ANTHEM - WE ARE NOT ALONE BY PEPPER CHOPLIN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

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!

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 122

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

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

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

⁴**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**

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

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

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

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

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

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[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. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on

what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But 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. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *The King Shall Come* (ELW 260)

1 The King shall come when morning dawns
and light triumphant breaks,
when beauty gilds the eastern hills
and life to joy awakes.

2 Not as of old a little child,
to bear and fight and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun
that lights the morning sky.

3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn
when Christ, victorious, rose
and left the lonesome place of death,
despite the rage of foes.

4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
shall dawn upon our race
the day when Christ in splendor comes,
and we shall see his face.

5 The King shall come when morning dawns
and light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
come quickly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925. Text: Public Domain.

APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 104)

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.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care (*especially* Jason, Erna, Richard, Marilyn, Margaret, Martha, Elizabeth, Lani, Charlotte, Erica, Rhonda, Heather, Aileen, Sandra, Brenda, Ruth, Kaitlyn, Danita. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict (*especially*). Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring* (ELW 691, vs 1 & 3)

1 Accept, O Lord, the gifts we bring
to place upon your table.

We do not worship as we ought
but only as we're able.

3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares
we lift in prayer before you.

Lord, by your grace now come to us,
as humbly we adore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957. Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. One License #A-728050

OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *My Lord, What a Morning* (ELW 438)

Refrain

My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain

2 You will hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain

3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain

Text: African American spiritual. Text: Public Domain.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness* (ELW 251)

1 My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord;
I sing my Savior's praise!
You looked upon my lowliness,
and I am full of grace.
Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age
this blessing shall proclaim--
great wonders you have done for me,
and holy is your name.

2 To all who live in holy fear
your mercy ever flows.
With mighty arm you dash the proud,
their scheming hearts expose.
The ruthless you have cast aside,

the lowly throned instead;
the hungry filled with all good things,
the rich sent off unfed.

3 To Israel, your servant blest,
your help is ever sure;
the promise to our parents made
their children will secure.
Sing glory to the Holy One,
give honor to the Word,
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High,
one God, by all adored.

Text: With One Voice, 1995, based on the Magnificat.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *Fling Wide the Door* (ELW 259)

1 Fling wide the door, unbar the gate;
the King of glory comes in state;
the Lord of lords and King of kings,
the Savior of the world who brings
his great salvation to the earth.
So raise a shout of holy mirth
and praise our God and Lord,
Creator, Spirit, Word.

2 He is the rock of our belief,
the heart of mercy's gentle self.

His kingly crown is holiness;
his scepter is his loveliness;
he brings our sorrows to an end.
Now gladly praise our king and friend,
and worship him with song
for saving us from wrong.

3 Oh, happy towns and blessed lands
that live by their true king's commands.
And blessed be the hearts he rules,
the humble places where he dwells.
He is the rightful Son of bliss
who fills our lives and makes us his,
creator of the world,
our only strength for good.

4 Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ;
our hearts are open wide in trust.
Oh, show us now your lovely grace,
upon our sorrows shine your face,
and let your Holy Spirit guide
our journey in your grace so wide.
We praise your holy name,
from age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Garcia Grindal, b. 1943. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by Permission.
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

Liturgy taken from sundaysandseasons.com.

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Please Pray for Those Who are Ill, in Hospital, or Requested Special Prayers: Jason Godin, Erna Handke, Richard Hubert, Marilyn Kathen, Margaret King, Martha Kodrzynski, Elizabeth Kuehl, Lani Lange, Charlotte Layden, Erica Loevenmark, Rhonda Mau, Heather Miller, Aileen Roesler,

Sandra Sell, Brenda Sperberg, Ruth Thom, Kaitlyn Vaillancourt, Danita Wolfgram.

News & Announcements

DONATIONS

A donation has been made by Cheryl Sack & family to the Organ Restoration Fund as they remember their parents, grandparents and great grandparents, Fred & Edith Gorr, who passed away on October 11, 1994 and November 27, 2021. *“O come let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.” Psalm 95:1*

A donation has been made by the Jam Session group for the continued use of the Parish Hall. *“So that my soul may praise you and not be silent, O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forevermore.” Psalm 30:12*

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

Give Gifts from the Heart this Christmas. Canadian Lutheran World Relief's new "Gifts from the Heart" catalogue has something to inspire and delight anyone on your list this year. It's full of meaningful, tangible gifts that will touch your loved ones and share God's love with the world! Copies are available at the entrances to the sanctuary, by emailing clwr@clwr.org or you can shop online at clwr.org/GFTH.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - PEMBROKE COMMUNITY CHOIR

After 3 years, the Pembroke Community Choir is excited to finally be back with "Christmas Joy", a concert full of joyful carols and wintery songs. Start your Christmas season on a festive note with our 60-voice choir singing both new pieces and familiar favourites. The performance is on Sunday, December 4th at 7 p.m. at Holy Name of Jesus Church, 284 Trafalgar Road in Pembroke. Tickets for adults are \$15 in advance until December 2, or \$20 at the door. Students 13 and under are free. Tickets are available from choir members; Fleurish at 3191 Petawawa Blvd., Petawawa; the Customer Care Centre in the Pembroke Mall; or at the door. Visit www.pembrokecommunitychoir.org for more information.

Eastern Synod Guidelines

Dear friends, colleagues and siblings in Christ,
Since the very beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic we, as the body of Christ, have committed ourselves to doing whatever was necessary to

protect the most vulnerable among us. This has been, and continues to be, a ministry of love and service to our neighbour for which I am so very grateful and proud.

In recent weeks Ministers of Health and individual Public Health Units across the territory of our Synod have begun to caution about the need for increased hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

For that reason, I am once again ***strongly recommending*** that all participants ***return to wearing a well fitting mask during in-person worship as well as during all indoor social events.*** It is also my strong counsel that Worship Leaders should be masked when they are not speaking and while presiding at the table/distributing communion.

As people of faith, we play a big part in the necessary collective action needed to protect the May God bless you and keep you in God's care!

Bishop Michael Pryse

CONGREGATIONAL TABLE TALKS

Just as Martin Luther sat around the table in a pub discussing theology with his students, we want you to join us. We will be gathering around tables with coffee and tea to talk about how you think your church Zion is called to do ministry. This is your chance to be heard. Come out after worship on January 8, 2023.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SUNDAY AND POTLUCK

Come to worship on December 18th to see the story of the birth of Christ re-enacted as you have never seen before! There will be a potluck to follow!

CHRISTMAS COFFEEHOUSE AND CAROL SING

On Sunday, December 11th from 3:30pm-5:30pm, join us for an open mic afternoon! Bring instruments and voices, Christmas Carols, Local Musicians! Hot chocolate, cider, coffee, tea and juice will be served with sweets and appetizers.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

2:00pm – Family Service

4:30pm – Candlelight Service

7:00pm – Candlelight Service

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

During the month of December, Confirmation Classes will run from 6pm-8pm every Wednesday at the church.

ADVENT OPEN HOUSE AT PASTOR SCOTT'S AND PASTOR SUE'S on Saturday, December 17h at 7pm. All are welcome.

Today's Scheduled Worship Volunteers

Worship Assistant: Susan Dupuis

Sexton: David Lehman

Projector Operator: Diane Hammel

Video Recorder: Alex Hammel

Sound Operator: Krista Hammel

Counters: Diane Hammel, Pam Duplessis, Wilmer Verch

Altar Care: Cheryl Sack

Ushers: Stan & Debbie Sitkiewicz

Coffee Hour: Doug & Pauline Malliff

This Week at Zion – November 28 – December 4

Tues 9:30am Tai Chi

7pm Narcotics Anonymous

Wed 12:30pm Staff Mtg.

6:30pm Mid Week Advent Service

7pm Men's Choir Practice

Horticultural Christmas Banquet

Thurs 9:30am Tai Chi

7pm Mixed Choir Practice

7pm Music Healing Vets

Sun 10am Worship Service with Holy Communion & Sunday School