

December 6, 2020 – Advent 2

Prelude:

Welcome:

Confession (page 94)

Gathering Hymn as the Advent Wreath is lit: ELW 249 - *“On Jordan’s Banks”*

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.

Kyrie: p.147

Prayer of the Day: God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation. Make us ready for the message that prepares the way, that with uprightness of heart and holy joy we may eagerly await the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” ⁶A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” ¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand as our singers welcome the Gospel.)

Song to Welcome the Gospel, ELW 250 *“Blest Be the God of Israel”*

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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

Homily:

Hymn: ELW 255 - *“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying”*

Prayers of the Faithful:

Music as the Altar is prepared.

The 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.**

P. It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join in their unending worship:

C. **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.

Pastor prays the Eucharistic Prayer, ending with the Lord’s Prayer.

Lamb of God (page 154)

Communion is received while you remain in your pews.

Music during communion

Prayer after communion: Almighty God, you come to us as the true bread from heaven in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we, who have received this Sacrament, may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with his endless life, now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing: May our Gracious God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us in the Risen Life of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song: ELW 264 – *“Prepare the Royal Highway”*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

News and Announcements:

Please Pray for Those Who are Ill, in Hospital, or Requested Special Prayers: Florence Felske, Richard Hubert, Dorian Verch, Sharon Watt.

SERVICE BROADCAST ON COGECO

Cogeco Community Channel is now broadcasting Zion's services at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings, a week later. Advent 2 service will be broadcast on December 13th at 9:00 a.m.

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION BREAD

If you wish to receive a gluten-free host (bread) as we commune today, please let pastor Stephen know prior to this morning's celebration or ask one of our guides to share that information with him.

MID WEEK HOLY COMMUNION AT ZION

Our mid-week celebration of Holy Communion this month will be held Wednesday, December 9 at 10:30 A.M. This simpler and shorter celebration of Holy Communion, with a smaller gathering, is perfect for anyone who needs to avoid crowds during the Covid season, as there is ample room for social distancing.

Important Christmas Eve Worship Information, Including How To Register For Worship On Christmas Eve

We will gather for worship on Christmas Eve, December 24 at 11:00 A.M., 3:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. at Zion. Please note that these times are somewhat different from last year, mostly because we need time to clean the Church after each time we gather this year. The 11 A.M. worship will be recorded and will be available for viewing Christmas Eve on our website or on our Facebook

page for people who, because of Covid restrictions, would prefer to remain at home on Christmas Eve. Joining us on-line is one way that you can still be part of our celebrations on Christmas Eve. Please remember that attendance at each of our Christmas Eve celebrations cannot exceed 100 people, which is allowed by Public health for our Church. Perhaps you might consider, for this year only, planning to attend at 11:00 A.M. or 7:00 P.M. as the mid-afternoon attendance tends to usually be much higher in this parish than the other times on Christmas Eve and we may not have sufficient allowable seating at 3:00 P.M.

Please register your intent to join us for worship by phoning the Parish office, anytime from Monday to Thursday, in the morning (9:00 A.M. until Noon) up until December 21, giving us the time you plan to attend on Christmas Eve, as well as the names of those who will be attending with you. Volunteers will assist Jean with the registering, and will be happy to receive your phone call.

JAM JAR FUNDRAISER – Gifts from the Heart

The Social Ministry Committee would like to express our deepest gratitude for your generosity in supporting our Jam Jar fundraiser again this year. Canadian Lutheran World Relief's Gifts from the Heart will be most grateful for the support. What a team we are!

Together we raised \$1,482.00.

The funds will be designated as follows:

- i. Tiny Hearts- whole gardens: 2(\$75.00)
- ii. Water purification device: 2(\$17.00)
- iii. Build a Latrine: \$200.00
- iv. Pair of Goats: 2(\$70.00)
- v. Flock of chickens: 3(\$45.00)
- vi. Garden tools: 2(\$75.00) *matched 3x's*
- vii. Crop know-how: 2(\$100.00) *matched 3x's*
- viii. Fight drought: \$250.00 *matched 3x's*
- ix. Seeds: 4(\$50.00) *matched 3x's*
- x. Emergency food: \$20.00 *matched 4x's*
- xi. \$3.55 extra will be added to gifts from the heart.

*The gifts that are marked **matched 3 or 4 x's** mean that for every dollar we donate, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the Canadian Government donates 3 or 4 dollars.

Thanks be to God for your generosity in bringing hope and help to the weary world.

CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

If you wish to sponsor a poinsettia, or make a donation to a special fund in memory of a loved one, or in thankfulness to God for His many blessings, please make your **written** request on a donation form (*located on the registration table by the entrance*), and deposit it either in the offering basket, or place it in the office correspondence mailbox located on the steel office door

by the elevator. Filling out one of these forms will ensure that your announcement will appear exactly as you wish. The cost for a poinsettia is \$12.00 and \$25.00. **The last day to order poinsettias is December 7th.** Your special Christmas donation may also be designated to one of the following funds: Building, Organ Restoration, Stained Glass Window Repair, Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR), Good Shepherding, General, etc. **The last day to make this special request is December 20th.**

GIFTS FROM THE HEART CATALOGUE – Give a meaningful gift from the comfort of home with Canadian Lutheran World Relief’s Gifts from the Heart catalogue. Your gift to a loved one will provide meaningful, tangible items for people around the world facing hunger, poverty and the threat of COVID-19. No matter which gift you choose, the gifts you give will change lives and touch your loved ones! Visit www.clwr.org/GFTH to learn more. Catalogues can also be picked up at the registration table by the entrance.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

A virtual Christmas Service of Remembrance will be held on Saturday, December 12th at 2pm (www.mdbfuneralhome.com). The home page will provide a link to the service, which helps us remember our loved ones and comforts us in our grief.

RAFFLE IN SUPPORT OF CAMP LUTHERLYN

Camp Lutherlyn is hosting a raffle with 13 various prizes to be given away. Tickets are \$10.00 each or 3 for \$20.00, and can be purchased from the church office, on line or from various members of the board. For more information, please check out their website (www.lutherlyncamp.ca) or their facebook page. Draw date is December 12, 2020.

KIWANIS CLUB CHRISTMAS TOY & FOOD DRIVE

The Kiwanis Club of Pembroke is again holding a Christmas Toys and Food Drive in support of the purchase of Toys for less fortunate families in our community. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, this year it will be a virtual fundraising effort. In an attempt to limit the risk of contacting Covid-19, there will be no volunteers stationed at local stores. For the same reason, no actual toys or food will be collected. Funds raised will be used to purchase toys, which volunteers will place in safe bags for pick up by families who have registered for help.

Surplus funds received will be distributed to St. Joseph’s Food Bank (50%), St Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen (25%) and The Grind (25%). Several other service groups and organizations are working together with Kiwanis to help with this project.

Donations can be made in three ways:

1. mailed to Pembroke Kiwanis , 961 Pembroke St, Pembroke ON K8A 8R4. Make cheques payable to Kiwanis Toy and Food Drive, or
2. eTransfer to ToyDrive@PembrokeKiwanis.org(use password Toys), or
3. Dropped off at Studio Dreamshare, 18 Pembroke St. W
Receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more.

Thank you for your support in this important Christmas project.

They are also having a **virtual telethon this Sunday (December 6) from 10 AM to 6 PM.**

"Drop in" to the telethon by using the web link:

<https://live.dpearceproductions.com/>

Our Kiwanian's Cameron Montgomery and Dorian Pearce have generously very quickly put together a day of local entertainment and interviews all in support of the Kiwanis Christmas Toy and Food Drive.

Today's Video Has Been Brought To You By Zion Lutheran Church's Production Crew:

Presider: Pastor Stephen Scheidt

Musician: Blaine Sack

Worship Assistant/Reader: Gayle Seegmiller

Videorecorder:

Projectionist: Ellen Vandersleen

Credit Researcher: Diane Hammel

Today's Scheduled Worship Leaders

Counters: Doug & Pauline Malliff, Susan Dupuis

Guides: Vince & Emma Rabishaw

Sexton: Diane Hammel

This Week at Zion – December 7 - 13

Monday		Deadline to Sponsor a Poinsettia
Tuesday	9:30am	Tai Chi (Intermediates)
	7pm	Council Mtg.
	7p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Wednesday	10:30am	Mid Week Service
		BULLETIN DEADLINE
Sunday	10a.m.	Holy Communion
	11:30am	Confirmation Class