

ZION WORSHIP
December 3rd, 2023 – 8:30 AM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



ZION CARE CONNECTION - VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED – The Zion Care Connection is an outreach ministry that helps our members in need. Volunteers are asked to provide occasional assistance (phone calls, home visits, groceries, meals, transportation) as their schedules permit. Please contact Sharon Joyce at 267-566-5640 or email her at sandbjoyce79@gmail.com.

POT LUCK LUNCHEON – Held by the Zion Ladies Guild on December 11th @ 11 AM.

COFFEE HOUR– Pastor Bill’s last coffee hour with Zion will be held in the fellowship hall after the SSSS on 10 DEC.

HOLIDAY WISHES– Dolly and Jack Patterson’s 20-year old great nephew is serving active duty aboard the USS Bataan. Unfortunately, he will be away from home this Christmas. If anyone would like to send him a Christmas Card to make his holiday special, please mail to:

Corporal Jeremy Wentworth
VMM 162
DET 1
Unit 80114, Box 2-500
FPO AE 09508-0114

WORSHIP

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

We welcome the beginning of this holy season of Advent with great joy. Jesus Christ is the center of our worship and the true light that dispels the darkness at times that surrounds us! We light this first candle of our Advent Wreath that invites us to embrace the true Light of Christ and the hope for our world that Christ brings us! We pray that our hearts and our world may once again be recreated by the power of God that dwells among us!

The First Advent Candle is lighted!

ADVENT HYMN: Emmanuel

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel

HYMN: In the Secret

In the secret, in the quiet place,
in my deepest heart I know
In the stillness, in the quiet hour I wait only for You
'Cause I want to know You more. **Chorus**

I am reaching for the highest goal, that I might receive the prize
Pressing onward, pushing every hindrance aside, out of my way
'Cause I want to know You more **Chorus**

Je - sus Lamb of God, worthy is Your name
Je - sus Lamb of God, worthy is Your name, Your name.

HYMN: Breathe

This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence living in me

This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word spoken to me

Chorus:

And I _____
I'm desperate for You
And I _____
I'm lost without You

Prayer of the Day - Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GOD'S HOLY WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— ²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.



⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

HOLY GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Mark 13:24-37; **Glory to You, O Lord!**

[Jesus said:] ²⁴"In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake." The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

REFLECTIONS



PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Closing Prayer - Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Blessing – The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✝ remain upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: You Direct my Steps

I will make my plans, Lord,
(But) You direct my steps (**x3**)

I will trust You all the time
In any situation
I will give all my worries to You
I know it will be just fine
No matter what You do
I will be thankful, so very grateful
I will be happy I'm with You

Dismissal: Go in peace. Keep alert for the Lord is near! **Thanks be to God!**

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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**"God calls us to share our faith in Christ
with the community in all seasons"**



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