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**Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
**December 22, 2024**

**The Lord Comes to Visit Us in Peace**

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Spirit of God. As the Lord dealt graciously with her and did great things for her (Luke 1:48–49), so also He manifests Himself and His glory to us in mercy and gentleness. He comes to rule His people in peace, to “shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD.” He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from lowly little Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father’s will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39–45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in the lowliness of simple water, bread and wine

**The Lord’s Supper is offered today at Zion.** Communicant members and members of our sister (LCMS) congregations are invited to commune at this altar. Please speak to our pastor if you have any questions about our communion practice. We would love to discuss the doctrine of the Lord’s Supper and joy of Christian fellowship. Please know the gifts of Jesus were given for you—but the proper spiritual preparation for communion is commanded by the Word of God (1 Cor 11:23-29). Those who do not yet commune here may come forward for a blessing (simply fold your arms over your heart to receive a Baptismal blessing) or you may remain in the pew during communion to join us in song and praise. There are no “offering” plates passed during the service. Rather, offering plates are set at the front pew. **You are invited to leave an offering of thanks to Christ on your way to communion** or any time during the first part of the service.

**A PRAYER UPON ENTERING THE LORD’S HOUSE**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come among us with great might; and because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **DIVINE SERVICE Setting Three**

### **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

**HYMN OF INVOCATION:** “Savior of the Nations Come” *LSB #332*

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:** Page 184

### **Introit**

1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b-7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b-47

*My soul magnifies the Lord,*

**and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

*My mouth derides my enemies,*

**because I rejoice in your salvation.**

*There is none holy like the Lord;*

**there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.**

*The barren has borne seven,*

**but she who has many children is forlorn.**

*The Lord kills and brings to life;*

**he brings down to Sheol and raises up.**

*The Lord makes poor and makes rich;*

**he brings low and he exalts.**

**GLORIA PATRI:** Page 186

**KYRIE:** Page 186

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY:** Page 189

**Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.. Amen**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:** Micah 5:2-5a

**EPISTLE READING:** Hebrews 10:5-10

**ALLELUIA and VERSE:** Page 190

**HOLY GOSPEL:** Luke 1:39-45

**APOSTLE'S CREED:** Page 192

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** "My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord" *LSB #934*

**SERMON:**

**OFFERTORY:** Page 192

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:** (See Prayer List on Page 6 of Bulletin)

**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:** Page 194

**PREFACE & PROPER PREFACE:** Page 194

**SANCTUS:** Page 195

**THE LORDS PRAYER:** Page 196

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD:** Page 197

**PAX DOMINI:** Page 197

**AGNUS DEI:** Page 198

**DISTRIBUTION:** "What Child is This" *Vocal solo by Alexis Loewenhagen*

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *LSB #357*

"Of the Fathers Love Begotten" *LSB #384*

**NUNC DIMITTIS:** Page 199

**THANKSGIVING:** Page 200

**POST COMMUNION COLLECT:** Page 201

**SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS:** Page 201

**BENEDICTION:** Page 202

**CLOSING:** "My Soul Rejoices" *LSB #933*

## Our Lord's Current Business

**Welcome to worship.** Like Mary and Elizabeth, we share the anticipation of what God is birthing — through Jesus, and in all our lives always.

Some here are exhausted already, God, like a full-term pregnant mother. Some — especially children — are excited for the celebration now just days away. Enfold us all as we worship you, Lord..

**On Sunday, December 1st** the congregation voted to call Pastor Kyle Castens. Pastor Castens is currently serving at Immanuel Lutheran Church in the Twin Cities of Festus & Crystal City, MO. We rec'd a letter from Pastor Castens, saying that he is giving this Call much prayer and consideration for both our congregation and his present congregation and "imploring" the Holy Spirit to guide him. He hopes to reach a decision just after the holidays. Please keep Pastor Castens, his family, Zion and Immanuel Lutheran in your prayers.

### Confirmation Corner

*Confirmation classes will take a break but will resume on Wednesday, January 8.*

**Adult Choir** - We are practicing songs for Advent and Christmas. We meet Thursday's from 6:30-7:30. We would love to have you come! Questions? Please contact Jane Reineke.

**Sunday School** - The today and next week (Dec. 22 & 29) we will be meeting as a large group and doing different activities with those who are with us. We will begin at 10:30 in the gathering space

**Sunday Morning Adult Study** – This week we will focus on Jesus' title of "Prince of Peace." We will learn why we long for peace in this world but fail to obtain it. We will also learn how Jesus, the "Prince of Peace," gives us peace with God through His sacrifice for us, which also results in believers being at peace with one another.

**Zion Checks-Please** if you have a check from Zion "CASH IT" by the end of the year. Thank you!

**Christian Care Committee** says "Thank You" to everyone who assisted in buying gifts or donated money to have gifts purchased for the families on the **Angel Tree** this year. You helped make Christmas a joyful time for 5 local families.

**Christmas Eve Services** will be at **4:00 & 7:00 p.m.** this year. Both will be candlelight services. There will also be a *Christmas morning* service at 10:00 a.m. *New Year's Eve Service* will be at 7:00 p.m.

**Sleep in Heavenly Peace** is in need of pillows to give with each bed. Please remember these children and their needs in your prayers and give a pillow or two if possible. Pillows can be dropped off at church office.

**Quilters** would appreciate any queen or king size flat sheets in gently used or new condition. These sheets are used in the making the beautiful quilts that are given to individual's in need. Thank you in advance 😊

**Thank you** to the Ladies Society for their time spent making the delicious Advent meals this year. Many enjoyed the different kinds of soups. Wonderful job as always ladies!



## Our Lord's On-Going Business

Please check the Resource Room for the lost items. Numerous items are seeking their rightful owner.

**Beautiful boxes & individual Christmas cards** plus holiday napkins are on display in the Resource Center card display (along with many other types of cards as usual also). We are offering single Christmas cards at only 25 cents each rather than the usual 50 cents. Monies can be left with our AA Diane or put in the church "bank" on the card shelf or given to Brenda Mc.

**Sign up sheets for Sponsorship** of Bulletins or Altar Flowers for 2025 are in a blue folder marked as such in the Resource Center. Please put your name & who IHO or IMO on the sheet by appropriate date.

If you are in need of church envelopes, please call the church office at 715-926-3664 or email at [office@zionmondovi.com](mailto:office@zionmondovi.com). A box will have your number placed on the envelopes and be placed in your mailbox in the narthex.

**Old eyeglasses laying around?** There is a collection basket in the Resource Center for them. They will be collected by the Lions Club and distributed to those in need. Thank you for donating to a good cause.



## ZION'S PRAYER LIST:

**For the families and Abundant Life Christian School of Madison.**

**The call process** here at Zion for guidance on decisions being God's Will.

**For those seeking healing:** Vicky Howell, Mike Ashwell, Scott Anderson Julie Dobson, Jeff Kacures, Mary Rolandt, Stella, Luther Larson, Emily Woodworth, Susan Loomis, Ed Gunderson, Ron Laehn, Marge Linse, Peggy Waldbillig, Elsie Steinbach, Jackie, Shadie, Savannah Au, Donna Seltrecht, Marvin Stay, Lois Stay, David Bloss, Jean Fleming, Jean Sandberg.

**Thanksgiving for those celebrating birthdays:** Joann Buchholz, Savanna Engels, Trista Lay Margaret Sessions, Robynn Brantner, Dan Hill. : .  
*\*LaRae Grotzinger has volunteered to help coordinate our prayer chain. If you have any updates to this list, please contact her (.), the office, or Pastor. You may also utilize the prayer box found in the narthex.*



“At Christmas we celebrate the fact of Christ’s coming into the world. He was born as a helpless baby to a poor woman and her husband in an insignificant part of the Roman Empire. And yet that baby was different from every other baby who had ever been born, or ever would be born—for He was God in human flesh. From all eternity He was God—but on that first Christmas He entered time, and He walked among us. As the Bible says, “The Word was God... [and] the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us” (John 1:1, 14).

**“As this Christmas approaches, I pray you will look at Jesus—as He is revealed in the pages of the New Testament—with an open heart and mind. When you do, you’ll discover not only that God is real, but that He loves you and wants to transform your life.”**

**Billy Graham**



**OUR WEEK'S WORK  
(December 23-29, 2024)**

MON.	Monday Night Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
TUES.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Svc	4:00 p.m.
	Christmas Eve Candlelight Svc	7:00 p.m.
WEDS.	Christmas Day Divine Service	10:00 a.m.
SUN.	Divine Service	9:00 a.m.
	Christian Education	10:30 a.m.



**A Stewardship Thought**

**Luke 1:45** – “And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord’s own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord’s commands in the face of the world’s anger and resistance, just as it gave Mary the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.



**OUR WORSHIP LAST WEEK**

Attendance: Weds. 73    Sunday 145  
 Sunday School 17

General Offering:	\$	3225.00
TIM	\$	15.00
Budget Year-to -Date:	\$	233,540.50
Offerings Year-to -Date:	\$	247,233.41



**SERVING THIS WEEK  
(December 18 & 22, 2024)**

Accom:	Jane Reineke		
Elder:	Joe Osenga	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Craig Loscheider	Sun	9:00 a.m.
Usher:	Ken Blodgett	Wed.	11:00 a.m.
	Reggie Corpuz	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	John Gehrke	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Greeter:	Kathy Blodgett	Wed.	11:00 a.m.
	Lucy Corpuz	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Robin Taylor	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Acolyte:	Sullivan Rud	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Tanner Osenga	Wed.	7:00 p.m.
	Reid Williamson	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
	Kate Williamson	Sun.	9:00 a.m.

Finance: Dan Hill & Frank Standaert  
 Altar Guild: Betty Sessions & Julie Vollmer



**SERVING NEXT WEEK SCHEDULE  
(December 24, 25 & 29, 2024)**

Accom:	Mary Gehrke		
Elder:	Galen Aase	Tues.	4:00 p.m.
	Matt Mohn	Tues.	7:00 p.m.
	David Reineke	Wed.	10:00 a.m.
	Matt Mohn	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Usher:	Larry/Jeanne Anderson	Tues.	4:00 p.m.
	Dan/Melissa Linse	Tues.	7:00 p.m.
	Butch Waldbillig	Wed.	10:00 a.m.
	Galen Aase	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Greeter:	TBA	Tues.	4:00 p.m.
	TBA	Tues.	7:00 p.m.
	Cheryl Anibas	Wed.	10:00 a.m.
	Audrey Aase	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Acolyte:	TBA	Tues.	4:00 p.m.
	TBA	Tues.	7:00 p.m.
	TBA	Wed.	10:00 a.m.
	Matt Triggs	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
	Calvin Olson	Sun.	9:00 a.m.

Brenda McKissick & Mike Ashwell  
 Altar Guild: Betty Sessions & Julie Vollmer