



# First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

Zion Lutheran Church  
Hollidaysburg, PA  
814-695-0091

[www.zionhollidaysburg.org](http://www.zionhollidaysburg.org)

“Proclaiming Jesus Christ and inviting people into life in his name; a life of worship, learning, fellowship, giving and witness.”

**\* Denotes when the congregation should stand.**

The flowers on the altar have been given to the glory of God.

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## NOTES ON LITURGY/MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRELUDE/MEDITATION

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.. **C: Amen**

**P:** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

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

**P:** Gracious God, **C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**P:** Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **C: Amen**

**\*THE ENTRANCE HYMN: “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” (LBW 25)**



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
- 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

**\*THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C And also with you.**

## \*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

### *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel (LBW 34 Vs. 1)*

1. Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice? Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

## \*BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P. O God, by whose Word all things are sanctified, pour forth your blessing upon this wreath and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive your abundant grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **C. Amen**

## \*KYRIE



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son:      ☩ Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. **C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

## FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

<sup>14</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup> In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

A: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**(Sat & 8:00) PSALMODY: Psalm 25:1-10 (Spoken)**

<sup>1</sup>To<sup>1</sup> you, O Lord,

I lift<sup>1</sup> up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be<sup>1</sup> put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph<sup>1</sup> over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be<sup>1</sup> put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame<sup>1</sup> who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your<sup>1</sup> ways, O Lord,  
and teach<sup>1</sup> me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your<sup>1</sup> truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all<sup>1</sup> the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O Lord, your compas-<sup>1</sup> sion and love,  
for they are from<sup>1</sup> everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and<sup>1</sup> my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good-<sup>1</sup> ness, O Lord.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up-<sup>1</sup> right, O Lord;  
therefore you teach sinners<sup>1</sup> in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low-<sup>1</sup> ly in justice  
and teach the low-<sup>1</sup> ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast<sup>1</sup> love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your<sup>1</sup> testimonies.**

**(10:45) PSALMODY: “He Comes, Emmanuel” (Song of Zion)**

**Prepare the way of the Lord (echo) (2x)**

**He comes (echo), Emman- (echo) -uel. Prepare  
the way.**

**He comes (echo), Emman- (echo) -uel.**

He comes, Emmanuel.

Look up to heav’n above.

He rides on clouds of love.

He comes, Emmanuel. **(refrain)**

He comes, Emmanuel.

His arm will set us free

For life redeemed to be:

He comes, Emmanuel. **(refrain)**

He comes, Emmanuel,

And brings his healing care

To broken everywhere.

He comes, Emmanuel.

He comes, Emmanuel (slower).

**SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. <sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.

<sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

A: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*VERSE** (Sung through twice)



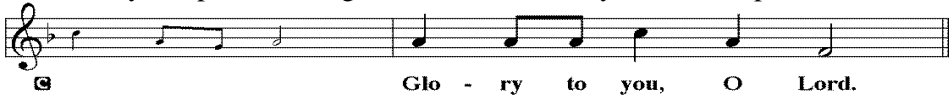
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

**\*GOSPEL: Luke 32:25-36**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirty-second chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup>“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup>“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY “Christ, Be Our Light” (ELW 715)**



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**C:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

A: Let us pray for the whole people ... according to their needs.

A: Lord, in your mercy. **C: Hear our Prayer.**

P: Into your hands ... through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

**\*PEACE** P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC (Sat & 8:00) (Accordion: Daniel Webber)**

**(10:45) "Good To Me" by The Porter's Gate (NOIZ & Song of Zion)**

## \*DIALOGUE

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 him thanks and praise.**

## \*PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary.....and join their unending hymn.

## \*SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)**

**C: 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**

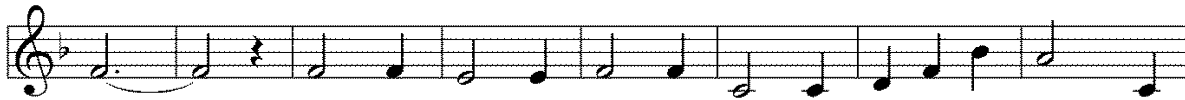
## \*INVITATION

P: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table. **C: Thank you Lord God.**

## \*AGNUS DEI



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

### HYMN "Once in Royal David's City" (ELW 269)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Once in royal David's city<br>stood a lowly cattle shed,<br>where a mother laid her baby<br>in a manger for his bed:<br>Mary was that mother mild,<br>Jesus Christ, her little child. | 2 He came down to earth from heaven<br>who is God and Lord of all,<br>and his shelter was a stable,<br>and his cradle was a stall;<br>with the poor and meek and lowly,<br>lived on earth our Savior holy. |
|---|--|

### HYMN "Away in a Manger" (LBW 67)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,<br>the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;<br>the stars in the sky looked down where he lay;<br>the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay. | I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky<br>and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.  |
| 2 The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,<br>but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  | 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay<br>close by me forever and love me, I pray.<br>Bless all the dear children in your tender care<br>and fit us for heaven, to live with you there. |

### HYMN "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" (LBW 44)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Infant holy, infant lowly,<br>for his bed a cattle stall;<br>oxen lowing, little knowing<br>Christ the child is Lord of all.<br>Swiftly winging, angels singing,<br>bells are ringing, tidings bringing:<br>Christ the child is Lord of all!<br>Christ the child is Lord of all! | 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping<br>vigil till the morning new<br>saw the glory, heard the story,<br>tidings of a gospel true.<br>Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,<br>praises voicing, greet the morrow:<br>Christ the child was born for you!<br>Christ the child was born for you! |
|--|--|



**HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (LBW 41)**

1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

**\*P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen**

**\* CANTICLE “Blessed Be the God of Israel” (ELW 250 Vs. 1)**

1 Blessed be the God of Israel  
who comes to set us free  
and raises up new hope for us:  
a Branch from David’s tree.  
So have the prophets long declared  
that with a mighty arm  
God would turn back our enemies  
and all who wish us harm.

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Let us pray. **C: Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

P: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen**

**\*SENDING HYMN: "People, Look East" (ELW 248)**



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

**\*DISMISSAL: A: Go in Peace. Keep awake. C: Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

<b>The Ministers:</b>	The People of Zion
<b>Pastor:</b>	David Bowman
<b>Organists/Accompanists:</b>	Doug Rhodes Gail Nedimyer
<b>Choir Directors:</b>	
<b>Noiz</b>	Ryan Custead
 <b>STAFF</b>	
<b>Dir. of Faith Formation &amp; Outreach</b>	Ryan Custead
<b>Sexton/Custodian</b>	Rick Fairhead
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	Joni Hammaker

**DAILY BIBLE READING**  
**December 2<sup>ND</sup> ~ December 8<sup>TH</sup>**

The following weekly Daily Bible Reading Guide is provided for your personal devotion.

2 ~     **ISAIAH 59**  
3 ~     **ISAIAH 60**  
4 ~     **ISAIAH 61**  
5 ~     **ISAIAH 62**  
6 ~     **ISAIAH 63**  
7 ~     **ISAIAH 64**  
8        **ADVENT 2**

**MALACHI 3:1-4**  
**BARUCH 5:1-9 {ALTERNATE}**  
**LUKE 1:68-79 (78)**  
**PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11**

## **This Week at Zion – 12/1/24 – 12/8/24**

### **Sunday 12/1**

8:00 a.m. Eucharist Service  
9:00 a.m. Noiz Rehearsal  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School (All Ages)  
10:45 a.m. Eucharist Service

### **Monday 12/2**

12:00 p.m. Serving Squad

### **Tuesday 12/3**

7:00 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer

### **Wednesday 12/4**

9:00 a.m. Stitch & Sew  
4:30 p.m. FaithFormers

### **Thursday 12/5**

10:00 a.m. ThuMBS

### **Friday 12/6**

Synod Youth Event Begins

### **Saturday 12/7**

8:30 a.m. AA Meeting (Chapel)  
6:00 p.m. Eucharist Service

### **Sunday 12/8**

8:00 a.m. Eucharist Service  
9:00 a.m. Noiz Rehearsal  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School (All Ages)  
10:45 a.m. Eucharist Service

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## ***A Note from the office...***

Pastor Dave is available for Pastoral Care and Visitation Tuesday through Friday, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Appointments are preferred. Please call the church office (814-695-0091) or Pastor Dave at 814-330-8025 to schedule.

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Lutheran  
Disaster Response

## HURRICANE RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response works with its partners to provide immediate relief, such as water, food, clothing, gift cards, tarps and other needs. Since many hurricanes also require a long-term response, Lutheran Disaster Response provides support on the long road to recovery with disaster case management, construction management, attention to unmet needs, and emotional and spiritual care.

Your gifts will support disaster-impacted communities. Gifts to Hurricane Response will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete.

Please mark your giving envelope with “Hurricane Response” and your donation will be forwarded accordingly. Thank you!



## FOOD DONATIONS FOR ZION'S FOOD PANTRY

We are in need of donations to replenish Zion's food pantry! Your past generosity has enabled us to give assistance to quite a few members of our community, but the need is always there and our pantry shelves always need refilling.

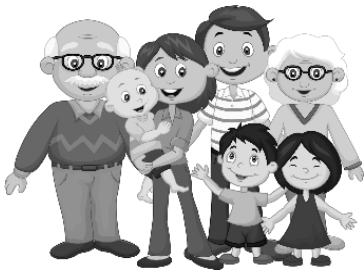
We are asking for donations of boxed, pre-packaged, & canned items. Ex. Soup, cereal, oatmeal/cream of wheat, canned vegetables, canned/cups fruit, canned chicken or tuna, peanut butter, jelly, ramen, flavored rice or noodle packets, pasta, sauce, crackers, granola or cereal bars, applesauce, etc. Sometimes there is limited ability/supplies to prepare food so simple one-pot/no-pot items can be helpful.

Other items that can be helpful are can openers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, razors, shaving cream, & feminine products.

**Our focus for the next few weeks will be: Canned Meat, Canned Fruit, Fruit Cups, & Can Openers**

Any items in excess of what we can use will be donated to the American Rescue Workers. Please do not donate expired food. Thank you in advance for your kindness!

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## SERVING SQUAD & OUTREACH BOARD

The Serving Squad is planning meals for **December 2 & 16**. For 12/2 we will be making Barbecue Chicken. By this date, our kitchen renovation will be underway so we would like volunteers to take a large pan, chicken, and sauce home to make a pan of barbeque chicken. We are planning for 6-8 pans.

On 12/16 we are taking pizza to the Hope Drop In Center and are **requesting cans of coffee and desserts** be donated to take along.

**Donations are greatly appreciated and include:**

- ~Barbeque Sauce (due 12/1)
- ~Coffee, Tea, or Hot Chocolate (12/1 & 12/15)
- ~Individual Fruit Cups or Applesauce (12/1 & 12/15)
- ~Rolls or Biscuits (12/1 & 12/15)
- ~Desserts of your choice (12/1 & 12/15)



Also, we are continuing to accept any donations of new or gently used blankets or any cold weather items such as hats or gloves and heavy socks. Please drop off any items to the Outreach Room.

Thank you again for helping make God's grace tangible to those in need.



## It's Photo Time!

Starting November 30<sup>th</sup>, we will be taking photos for the new Church Directory. Please plan to take the time before or after services, on Saturday or Sunday, to have your photo taken. Our church directory is a great resource for our members. Since the Zion Communications team has taken on this project, there will be no multiple-pose portrait sessions; no sales pitch. We will try our best to make the process as quick and painless as possible, so there's no need to procrastinate. We want to see everyone in our new directory!

If you have any questions, you may send an email to: [news@zionholidaysburg.org](mailto:news@zionholidaysburg.org), with the subject "CHURCH DIRECTORY", or call Laura Jones: (814) 312-7318.



## Giving Tree Project

Once again the Adult Board will be sponsoring the Giving Tree Project. This project is done in cooperation with the Home Nursing Agency. The tree is up and available to choose a gift tag! **When you take a tag from the tree, be sure to sign the notebook and return your gift to the church by Sunday, December 8th.** When you return your gift, place it in the box in the hall that matches the circled number on the front of the tag. If you have any questions please contact Linda Renney or anyone from the Adult Board. Thank you in advance for your kindness!

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## Sometimes it's Hard to Ask for Help

We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So, we try to keep our struggles hidden or tucked deep inside. However, that is not God's plan! Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for others - and allow others to care for us in our time of need.



If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and walk with you through a tough time. (and it's completely confidential ) Find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Karen Wagner 814-317-7722 and Connie Counsman 814-696-3832. Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

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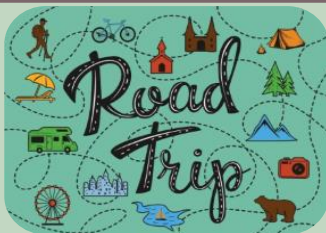
## Care about Zion? Become an Usher!

For two years, Zion has been reviewing our facility and protocols as we consider our security. We have had a committee of congregants, a review by the property board, and even an audit by the Department of Homeland Security and local emergency responders. At the November CPC meeting, we reviewed and made decisions about the last of those recommendations. We have made some very real security improvements--like adding a camera system. We have delayed some work until we can get a grant to pay for it--like replacing some exterior doors. And some recommendations--like hiring a security coordinator--we declined because they were not practical.

But as Zion becomes more secure, we need you to truly make Zion safer *and* friendlier. We have not had ushers since the pandemic, and they are sorely missed. When someone new comes into our church, we want them to feel welcomed and to have someone they can ask questions of. And if someone comes into worship who is struggling and might be disruptive, it will be safer for everyone when they are greeted by someone who can evaluate their situation and seek whatever help--from pastoral to medical to legal--that individual needs.

Andrew Wedel will serve as Zion's head usher as we relaunch this important part of our ministry. **If you can serve as an usher** (and if you are in good health and available, you can serve), **please talk to Andrew or Pastor David.** Truly, there is no change to our facility that can improve our hospitality and safety like an usher. Please serve.

# Christmas Pageant 2024



## “Road Trip”

Believe it or not, it is time to start thinking about Zion's Christmas Pageant for 2024! **We need children, youth, and a few parent/adult volunteers** to make this pageant a success. Participating is a great way to help your child focus on faith in the Advent season. *Please let Ryan Custead know at [ryncust@gmail.com](mailto:ryncust@gmail.com) or at (814) 695-0091 if your children will participate.* Zion's pageants are always unique and fun, so watch for more information.



**Pageant Schedule:**  
**Saturday, December 14**  
from 10:00am-Noon Pageant practice  
**Saturday, December 21**  
from 10:00am-Noon Pageant practice  
**Sunday, December 22**  
@ 10:45am Pageant performance

# Holden Evening Prayer

Celebrate and anticipate the Light of the World with Holden Evening Prayer this December. This Vespers service will begin at **7:00 PM in the Sanctuary on Tuesdays, December 3, 10, and 17.** Holden Evening Prayer is musically rich and easy to sing. Complement your Advent preparations with this worship opportunity

**Christmas  
Caroling**  
Wednesday,  
12/11 @  
7:00pm



Join Zion's youth and spread some joy!

*Meeting at Zion!*

On **Wednesday, December 11th**, all are invited to **meet at the church at 7:00pm** for some Christmas Caroling. Zion's youth groups, Cr@zy and Cr@zy "lite" invite Zion folks of all ages to join them! We will carol at some houses along the way as we walk together to the Lutheran Home at Hollidaysburg. After singing and visiting with the residents, we will walk together to the Clark house (near the Home) for some hot chocolate and cookies. We will finish by 8:30pm.



**ALLEGHENY LUTHERAN  
SOCIAL MINISTRIES**

*We Touch Lives*

# Blue Christmas

*A service of comfort and hope  
for those who are hurting  
this Christmas.*

**Friday, December 20  
at 6:30 p.m.**



## **2025 ALTAR FLOWERS CHANGE**

The Worship Board would like to remind the congregation of the sponsorship program for the flowers that are placed on the altar each week. There will be changes starting in 2025 to try to keep costs reasonable for sponsors and the church on weeks without a sponsor. The cost of altar flowers (2 vases) was scheduled to go up to \$100 for the coming year and that seemed excessive to ask of our congregation. The Worship Board has decided instead to go to one center arrangement which will cost \$65.00. This arrangement will be in a rectangular container approximately 9" x 4" and will sit between the candelabras. As always, you are welcome to sponsor the flowers in memory of loved ones, in honor of a special event, or in thanks for God's many blessings.

With the kitchen renovation starting, the bulletin board in the kitchen hall will not be accessible. If you are interested in signing up, **the sign-up sheet for the new year will be placed on the bulletin board outside the office door.** Also, when you sign up, be sure to mark the column stating if you want to take the flowers after services.

To summarize, the cost for **altar flowers for 2025 will be \$65.00 for one center arrangement.** Checks can be made payable to Zion or you can include payment in your offering envelope by marking it "Altar Flowers". **Thank you** in advance for participating in this ministry.

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# BLANKET DRIVE

HELP US KEEP THOSE IN  
NEED, WARM THIS WINTER  
NEW AND GENTLY USED

Please drop off all  
donated blankets in the  
Outreach Room. All  
donations will be given  
to the Hope Drop-In  
Center in Altoona.







## FAITH RIDERS

The Faith Riders Christmas Lunch will be on Saturday, December 14 at 12:00 p.m. at the U. S. Hotel. If you plan to attend, please call Carol Little at 814-695-0284,

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## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The Capital Campaign total has surpassed \$456,000, and it's looking like we'll be needing every penny. Among other things, it has been discovered that a great deal of infrastructure; electrical and plumbing, has deteriorated beyond repair, and must be replaced.

Kitchen cabinet and pantry contents have been boxed up and are being stored in the side of the fellowship hall. A group of volunteers has been enlisted to finish temporary fellowship hall setup, and demo the kitchen on December 14. A few cabinets will be set aside to use for the new coffee bar. The remainder of the cabinets, appliances, sinks and countertops will be taken by members interested in "owning a piece of the kitchen". An architect will be finalizing drawings to be submitted for all required permitting. The asbestos abatement contractor will remove the tile floor during the first or second week of January. After that, the general contractor will dismantle the old kitchen ceiling and soffit and demo the bathrooms. This will be followed by electrical and plumbing upgrades throughout the entire remodel area and in the boiler room below. The process of installing the new ceiling, flooring and cabinets will become the first step of creating the new look of our kitchen and restrooms. Additional phases will follow. Stay tuned, and keep those pledges coming!

Renew  Restore  
Rejuvenate

### Own a piece of the kitchen!

The property board and other church volunteers plan to prepare the kitchen for renovations on December 14th. A first step will be removing 2 dishwashers, the 10-burner natural gas range, the sinks, countertops, and wood cabinets. Some of the cabinets will be repurposed for the new coffee bar, but all else will be available for upcycling. If you are interested in any of the aforementioned items, they will be available for the price of simply hauling them away by December 31st. Look for the list of items on the table outside the Fellowship Hall, beginning November 5<sup>th</sup>. Leave your name and phone number, and you will be contacted by a member of the Property board.

### FREE KITCHEN ITEMS!

The Zion kitchen contents have been removed in preparation for renovations. All excess supplies have been placed on tables in the Fellowship Hall. These items are FREE on a first-come, first-served basis. Items include plates, glassware, drinkware, even a couple small appliances. Check it out, and take what you can use!