

You are my Son,  
the Beloved;  
with you  
I am well  
pleased

LUKE 3:22

# Baptism of Our Lord

January 12, 2025

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 and in thanks for  
our daughters, Justine & Katrina by Greg & Sue Swope.

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

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**P:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P:** Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

**P:** Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

**\*THE ENTRANCE HYMN: “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” (ELW 310)**



- 1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
- 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;
- 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;
- 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

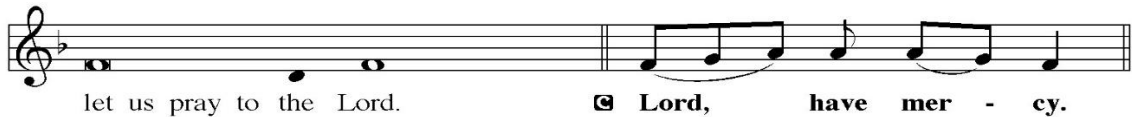
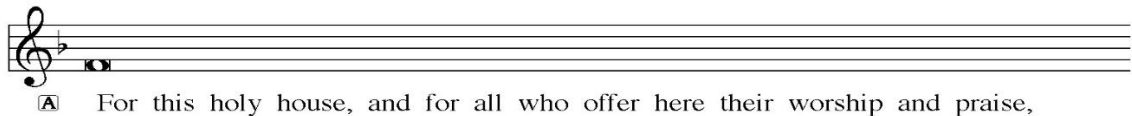
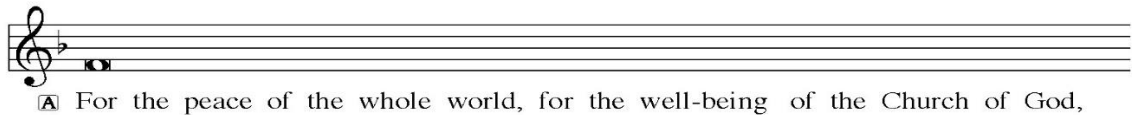
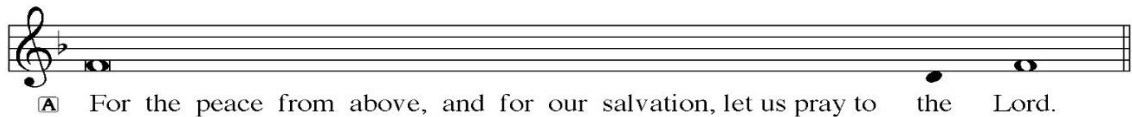


an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

**\*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.**

# \*KYRIE



## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was  
slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. II Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and  
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. I Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and  
join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and  
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. III For the Lamb who was  
slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. C: Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup> For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup> Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; <sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—<sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

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

## **(Sat & 8:00) PSALMODY: Psalm 29 (Spoken)**

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the <sup>1</sup> Lord, you gods,

ascribe to the Lord glo- <sup>1</sup> ry and strength.

<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the Lord the glory <sup>1</sup> due God's name;  
worship the Lord in the beau- <sup>1</sup> ty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of <sup>1</sup> glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the <sup>1</sup> mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the Lord is a pow- <sup>1</sup> erful voice;  
the voice of the Lord is a <sup>1</sup> voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the Lord breaks the <sup>1</sup> cedar trees;  
the Lord breaks the ce- <sup>1</sup> dars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup> **the Lord makes Lebanon skip <sup>1</sup> like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a <sup>1</sup> young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> The voice <sup>1</sup> of the Lord  
bursts forth in <sup>1</sup> lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup> **The voice of the Lord <sup>1</sup> shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilder- <sup>1</sup> ness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup> The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the <sup>1</sup> forests bare.  
And in the temple of the Lord all are <sup>1</sup> crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup> **The Lord sits enthroned a- <sup>1</sup> bove the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for- <sup>1</sup> evermore.**

<sup>11</sup> O Lord, give strength <sup>1</sup> to your people;  
give them, O Lord, the bless- <sup>1</sup> ings of peace.

## (10:45) PSALMODY: “How Majestic in Your Name” (Song of Zion)

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth. (2x)

O Lord, we praise Your name, O Lord we magnify Your name:

Prince of Peace, Mighty God:

O Lord God Almighty.

## SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

<sup>14</sup> Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup> The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup> (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).

<sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

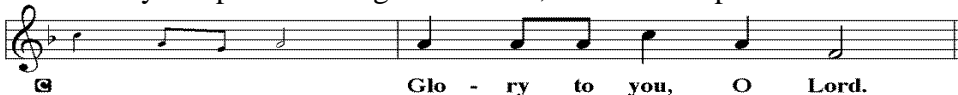
A: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

## \*VERSE



## \*GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.



<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” <sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



## CHILDREN’S SERMON

## SERMON

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY “When Jesus Came to Jordan” (ELW 305)**



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,  
2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.  
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond-age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,  
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,  
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

**(10:45) SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM – Caroline Kay Shoeman**

**INTRODUCTION**

**P:** In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

**PRESENTATION**

I present *Caroline Kay Shoeman* to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

**P:** In Christian love you have presented *Caroline* for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ. Do you promise to fulfill these obligations? **R: I do.**

## THANKSGIVING

**P:** The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**P:** Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that *Caroline* who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away her sin as *Caroline* is cleansed by this water and word. Bring her forth as an *inheritor* of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **C: Amen**

## RENUNCIATION

**P:** I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

**P:** Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **R: I renounce them.**

**P:** Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **R: I renounce them.**

**P:** Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **R: I renounce them.**

## PROFESSION (CREED)

**P:** Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**P:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: 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.**

**P:** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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**

## BAPTISM

**P:** *Caroline Kay*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

## LAYING ON OF HANDS

**P:** The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

**P:** God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon *Caroline*: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence. **C: Amen**



## **SIGNING WITH THE CROSS**

**P:** *Caroline Kay*, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **R:** Amen

## **GIVING OF THE LIGHT**

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

## **WELCOME**

**P:** Through Baptism God has made *this new sister a member* of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

**C:** We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.

## **(SAT & 8:00) \*NICENE CREED**

**C:** We believe in one God, The Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

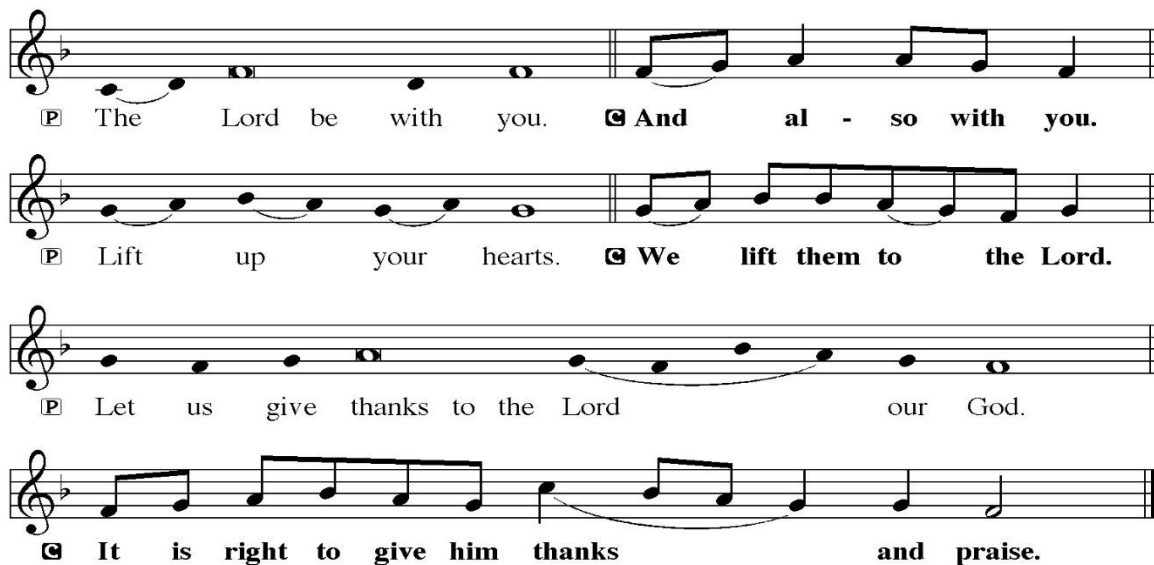
**A:** Let us pray for the whole people ... according to their needs.

**A:** Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

**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.**

## \*DIALOGUE



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

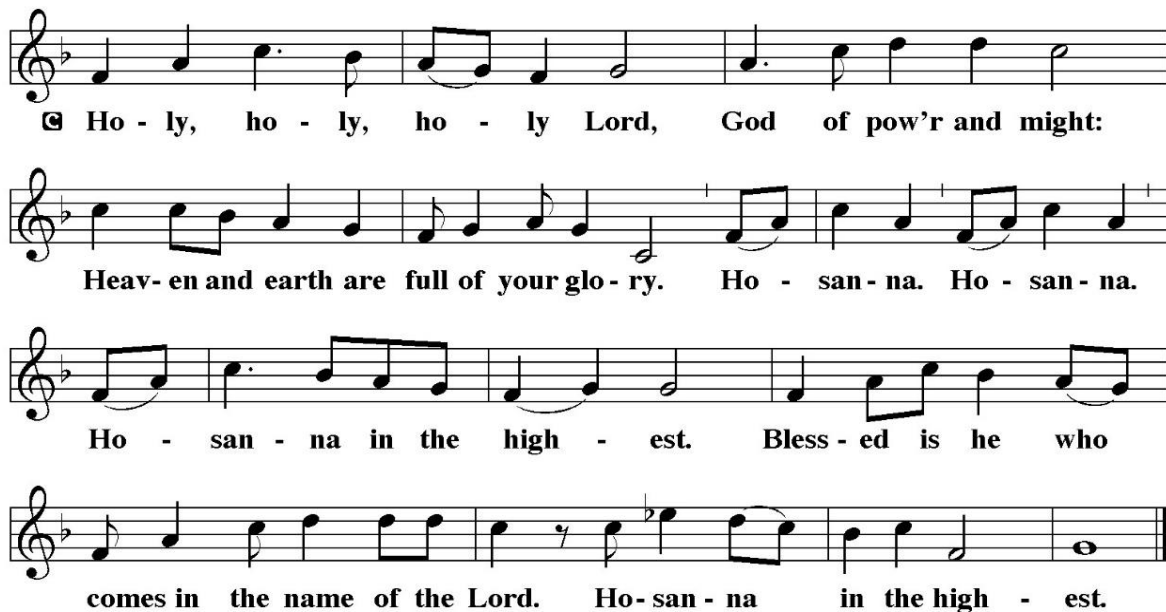
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## \*PREFACE

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

## \*SANCTUS



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

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.

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

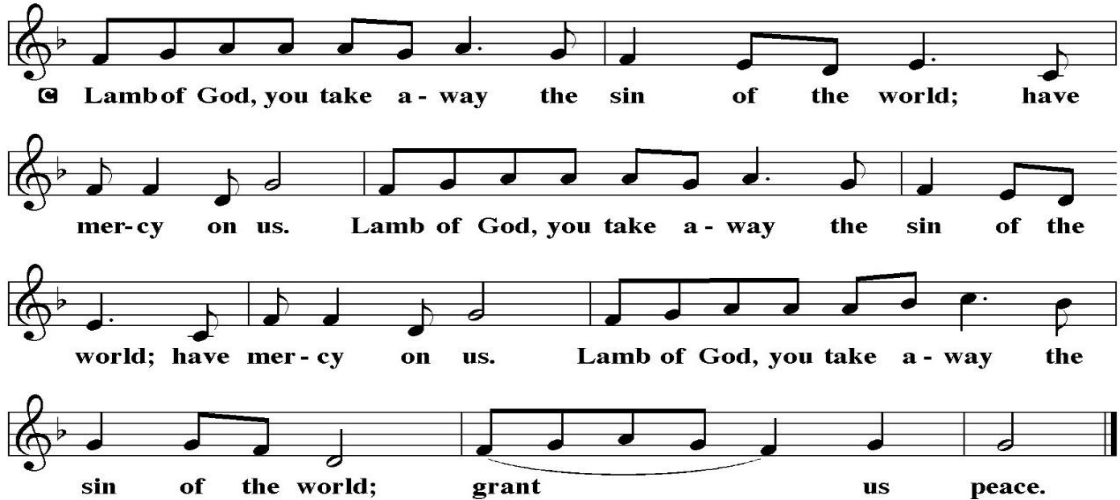
## \*THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**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:** At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see. **C:** Thanks be to God.

## \*AGNUS DEI

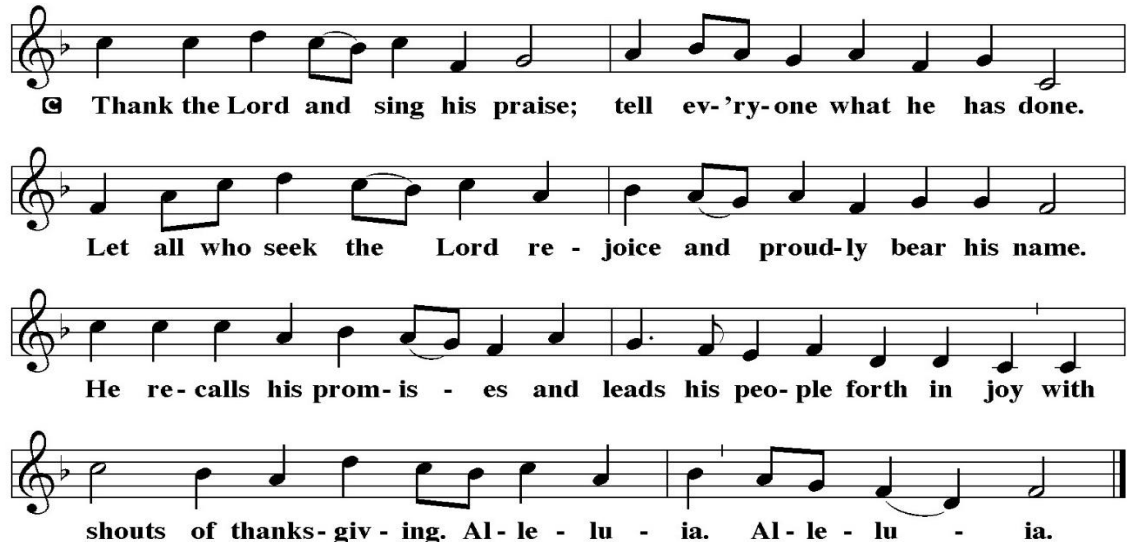


☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

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

## \* CANTICLE



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.  
He re-calls his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with  
shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. C: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

## \*BLESSING

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

## \*SENDING HYMN: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" (ELW 543)



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

\*DISMISSAL: A: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. 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

**STAFF**

<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**  
**January 13<sup>TH</sup> ~ January 19<sup>TH</sup>**

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

13. Genesis 11  
14. Genesis 12  
15. Genesis 13  
16. Genesis 14  
17. Genesis 15  
18. Genesis 16  
19. **EPIPHANY 2**  
**ISAIAH 62:1-5**  
**PSALM 36:5-10 (8)**  
**1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11**  
**JOHN 2:1-11**

## **This Week at Zion – 1/12/25 – 1/19/25**

### **Sunday 1/12**

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 1/13**

### **Tuesday 1/14**

4:00 P.M. Property Board Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Mutual Ministry Meeting

### **Wednesday 1/15**

9:00 a.m. Stitch & Sew  
1:15 p.m. Stewardship Board Meeting  
4:30 p.m. FaithFormers

### **Thursday 1/16**

10:00 a.m. ThuMBS  
7:00 p.m. CPC Meeting

### **Friday 1/17**

### **Saturday 1/18**

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

### **Sunday 1/19**

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  
12:00 p.m. Children Family & Youth Board Meeting

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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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## **2024 GIVING STATEMENTS**

2024 Giving Statements are available to pick up outside the Fellowship Hall through Sunday, January 26. If you are unable to find your statement, please contact the church office at 814-695-0091. Thank you.



## SERVING SQUAD & OUTREACH BOARD

The Serving Squad's next meal is planned for **January 20**. We will be making chili.

**Donations are greatly appreciated and include:**

~Canned Beans (due 1/19)

~Ground Beef (due 1/19)

~Tomato Sauce (due 1/19) (Chili seasoning packets are ok too. Ex. McCormick)

~Bread (due 1/19)

~Coffee, Tea, or Hot Chocolate (1/19)

~Individual Fruit Cups or Applesauce (1/19)

~Desserts of your choice (1/19)



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.

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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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### Take part in a Zion card shower!

On February 9, 2025 Barb Clary will turn 90 years young! Her family invites you to join in a card shower to help her celebrate such a momentous milestone in her life. Her address is 201 Jackson Street, Presbyterian Village, Inglenook Apt 4309, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. Thank you!

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### 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.

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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## Become an usher: Zion needs you!

Zion has 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. Anyone in good health can serve as an usher. **To volunteer, 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.

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## FAITH RIDERS

This month, and through out the winter months, we will be meeting for lunch at Marzoni's in Duncansville. This month we will meet on 1/25 at 12:00 p.m. If you plan to attend, please contact Karen Wagner at 814-317-7722.



## Zion Family Winter Retreat 2025 February 7th-9th at Camp Sequanota

Take time to grow in faith with us at the 2025 Family Winter Retreat at Camp Sequanota! Attendees will stay in the comfortable Bowersox Center (“hotel style” private rooms and bathrooms) as we play games, worship around a fire, enjoy the outdoors, and more. Families (or individuals), sign up today. Arrival and “move in” time at Sequanota is **Friday evening from 7:00-8:00pm**. At 8:00pm

we kick things off with group activities and **finish after a 10:30am brunch on Sunday**. You may remain at camp afterwards to enjoy the outdoors for a while afterward.

We will spend time together with group activities, bible study, and worship. There will also be lots of free time for exploring camp, relaxing inside, and playing games. **If there is snow, plan on some great sledding and winter fun!**

The subsidized pricing is \$50 for adults, \$15 for children and youth, and kids 4 and under are free. (Price includes room and all meals) Watch your email for online registration, sign up in the bulletin, or call the church office at 695-0091. Contact us with any questions or if you have a Zion youth who would be interested in attending without family.

**Please make checks payable to “Zion Lutheran Church”.**

**(Please consider, Camp Sequanota charges anyone over the age of 11 as an adult.)**



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### Zion Family Winter Retreat Sign-up – February 7-9, 2025

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Adults (19 & up) # \_\_\_\_\_ Youth (12-18) # \_\_\_\_\_ Children (5-11) # \_\_\_\_\_ Under 4 # \_\_\_\_\_

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### IGNITE Youth Retreat

**\*2nd-12th Graders**

Saturday, January 25th (11:00am) - Sunday, January 26th (1:30pm)

@ Camp Sequanota

Ryan Custead (Dir. of Faith Formation & Outreach) is attending as one of the camp leaders!

Registration is online at [www.sequanota.com](http://www.sequanota.com)

Contact Ryan at [ryncust@gmail.com](mailto:ryncust@gmail.com) or at (814) 695-0091 with any questions and watch your email for more info.



*\*disregard age range on camp website*

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### Game Night & Serving Squad Meal Prep

Join us on Friday January 31! Serving Squad Meal Prep begins at 5:00 p.m. and Game Night begins at 6:00 p.m. This event is organized and run by the Children Family & Youth Board. They will provide organized games and other activities. The meal for game night will be

Mexican food themed and everyone is asked to bring a dish or two to share. Please plan to attend!



## **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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## **2025 Offering Envelopes & Online Giving**

**2025 offering envelopes are available.** Please pick them up (and any you might be able to deliver to friends, neighbors and family) in the fellowship hall and **discard any old ones.** Using old envelopes may cause a discrepancy on your giving statement, so please do not use them.

Also a reminder that **the church has online giving available** for a more streamlined giving option. You can define how your money is distributed just like on your giving envelopes. Please consider this giving option as it allows for more consistent income flow to the church. If you are interested in online giving please contact the church office.

**If you cannot find your envelope box or you are a newer or prospective member who has not received envelopes yet, please call the church office and we will make sure you receive them.**

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## **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

The Capital Campaign total is inching toward the total pledge amount, now surpassing \$467,000. With Phase I expenses deducted, there is about \$191,000 available for Phase II.

A group of members completed the kitchen and pantry demo on December 10. The kitchen is now a "clean" slate. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their Saturday to help successfully complete this phase of the renovation. RL Abatement will begin work to remediate asbestos in the old flooring on January 6. Preliminary architectural drawings were released during the last week of December. They include required revisions to make the area ADA compliant. The final color kitchen rendering is expected to be released to the congregation during the first week of January. Final drawings are on schedule to be released for code enforcement approval by mid-January. Contracts for general construction, electrical, and plumbing will be finalized shortly thereafter. Your generosity is making things happen!

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Renew   
**Restore**  
Rejuvenate