

The Festival of Our Lord's Nativity

25 December 2023 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Zion Lutheran Church & School

Kearney, NE + (308) 234-3410

Rev. James DeLoach, Pastor + (308) 627-5260 Rev. Doug Gaunt, Pastor + (308) 455-0552 Tony Splittgerber, Principal + (308) 293-0168

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

Please sign our guest book in the narthex and let us know how we can be of service to you. If you are a member in good standing of a sister LC-MS congregation, we invite you to commune with us. Members of other church bodies with whom we are not in confessional fellowship are asked to please refrain from communing. Our pastor will be happy to visit with you about our desire for true unity in Christ and how that is connected to our communion practice. All communicants need to register in the narthex prior to the service.

Christ Jesus Reveals Himself in the Signs He Has Given to His Church

The Lord has not forsaken us. He has come to us and sought us out to save us (Is. 62:11-12), "so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:7). In Christ Jesus, conceived and born of Mary, "the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared" (Titus 3:4). Now He is lifted up in the Gospel, "a signal over the peoples" (Is. 62:10), that He might call us to rejoice in His salvation. St. Luke emphasizes the signs by which the shepherds once found Him: in Bethlehem, the City of David, "wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:12). The same Lord Jesus reveals Himself to us in the sure and certain signs of His Gospel. His Church is a true Bethlehem (House of Bread); for the Son of David, "a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11), feeds us with His body and His blood from the manger of His altar, wrapped in swaddling cloths of bread and wine. Let us ponder these mysteries and, like the shepherds, go about our vocations, "glorifying and praising God" (Luke 2:19-20).

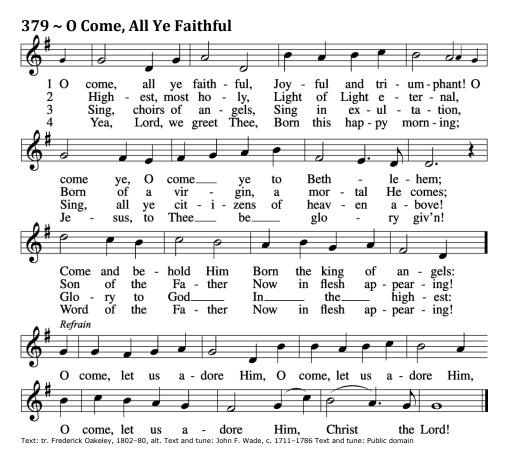


Serving Zion Today

Organist: Carol DeLoach
Usher: Mike Wilkens
Engineer: Zach DeLoach
Acolyte: Grace Burger

Elder: Eric Rosenthal
Crucifer: Landen Eckhoff
Announcer: Brooke Fisher
Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal &

Shirley Helmbrecht



The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Exhortation LSB 184

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins LSB 184

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution LSB 185

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

(Psalm 98:1-4; Antiphon: Isaiah 9:6)

For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given; * and the government shall be upon his | shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God, * Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | mar<u>velous</u> things!*

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;* break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.



Salutation and Collect of the Day



Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sit

Old Testament Reading ~ Isaiah 62:10-12

¹⁰Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over the peoples.

¹¹Behold, the LORD has proclaimed

to the end of the earth:

Say to the daughter of Zion,

"Behold, your salvation comes;

behold, his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him."

¹²And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD;

and you shall be called Sought Out,

A City Not Forsaken.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

To us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*

and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,*

Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a | new song,*

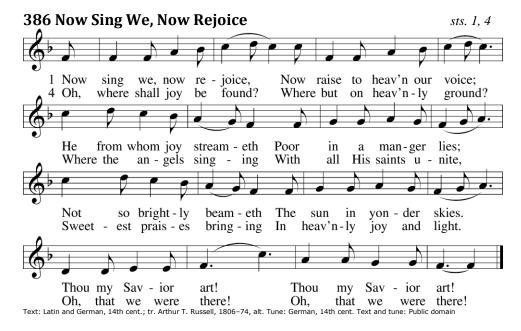
for he has done | marvelous things!

Epistle ~ Titus 3:4-7

⁴When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

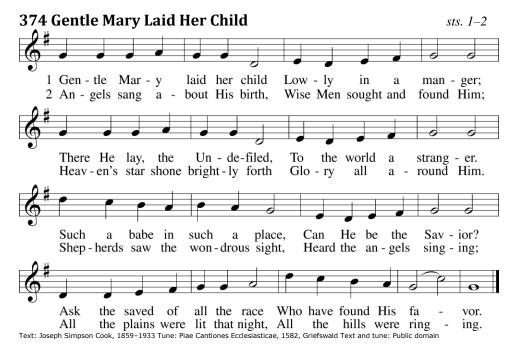
Stand



Gospel Luke 2:1–7

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were

there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



Holy Gospel Luke 2:8–14

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"



sts. ref-2



Rang out the an-gel cho-rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.

Text (sts. 1-2): John W. Work II, 1873-1925, alt. Text (ref) and tune: African American spiritual Text and tune: Public domain

Holy Gospel *Luke 2:15–20*

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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Nicene Creed
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I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

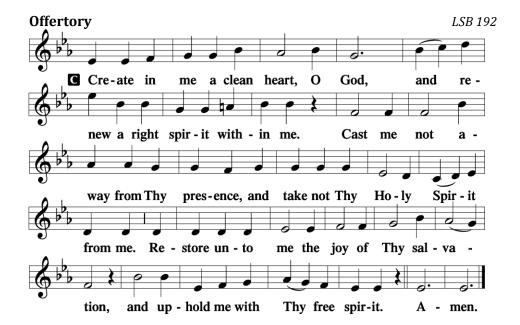
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Sermon - "Wrapped Up with Love"

based on Luke 2:15-20

Stand



Prayer of the Church

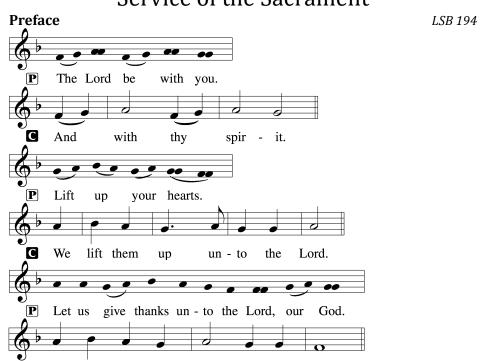
The Offering

C It

is

meet and

Service of the Sacrament



right

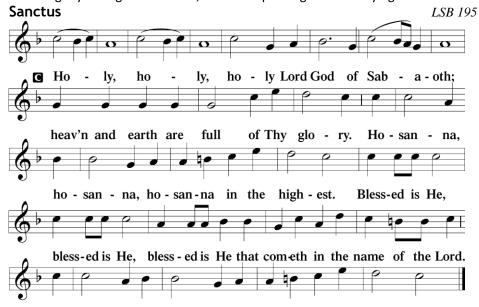
so

to

do.

Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My+ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance

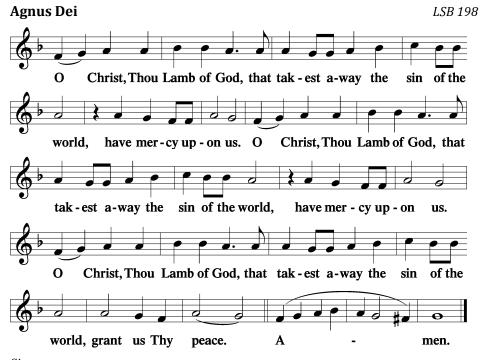
of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.



THE DISTRIBUTION

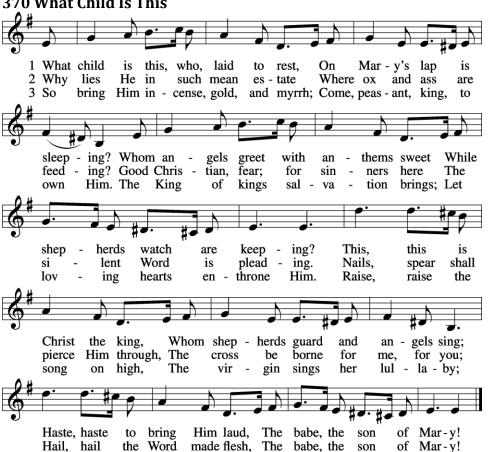




- 5 "These are the signs that you shall mark: The swaddling clothes and manger dark. There you will find the infant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."
- 6 How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the shepherds let us go To see what God for us has done In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,And see what in the manger lies.Who is this child, so young and fair?It is the Christ Child lying there.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest! You came to share my misery That You might share Your joy with me.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann Text and tune: Public domain

370 What Child Is This



for Christ

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98 Tune: English, 16th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Jov.

joy,

is

born.

The

babe, the

son

of Mar-v!



Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

384 Of the Father's Love Begotten 1 Of the worlds the Fa - ther's love be - got -Ere be ten 2 Oh. that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin, old 3 This whom seers in time Chant - ed with is He of ve heights of heav'n, a - dore Him: An - gel hosts. God the Fa - ther, \triangle 5 Christ, to Thee, with And. 0 Ho - lv gan be, He is Al - pha to and full Ho - ly Ghost of grace, By the con - ceiv ing, voic - es Whom the of the ac - cord, proph ets prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, be bow fore Him Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv ing He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that of And the Sav - ior our race, babe, the world's Re -Prom-ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do have And been. that fu ture years shall see deem er, First re - vealed His sa cred face ed: Let tion its Lord pect cre a praise lent, Ev 'ry voice in con cert ring Sİ min ion, And e ter nal vic to ry Ev er - more and ev more. er Ev er - more and er more. ev er - more and ev er more. Ev - er - more and ev er more. Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348-c. 413; (sts. 1-4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-77 Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal LSB 199

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

→ in peace.

C Amen.



Post-Communion Collect

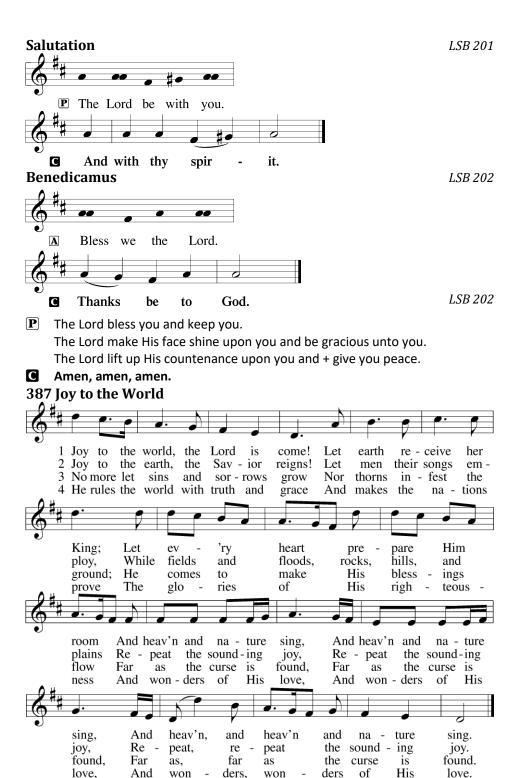
and His mercy endureth for

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

er.

C Amen.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Prayers for Our Members		
Norm Abels (Brookestone Meadows-Elkhorn)	Hospice	
Judy Ahrens	Healing	
DyAnn Altwine	Healing	
Lyle Colsden (Mother Hull)	Healing	
Fred Flessner	Healing	
Pat Flodine (Cambridge Court)	Healing	
Jade Florang	Healing	
Marilyn Fuqua	Healing	
_Jan Hatfield	Healing	
Ruby Hatfield	Healing	
Evelyn Heiden <i>(Mother Hull)</i>	Healing	
Lennis Hodgson	Healing	
Linda Luhn	Healing	
Norrine Rockwell (Kinship Pointe)	Healing	
Debra Schinkel	Healing	
Don and Gretchen Trampe (Prairie View)	Healing	
Diane Plummer	Healing	
Ivan Bombeck	Cancer	
Bertha Marienau	Cancer	

Prayers for Our Members' Family & Frie	nds
Makenzie Brooks (Bruce and Joni's daughter-in-law)	Expecting
Tenaya Nuttelman (Jared's wife)	Expecting
Amy Nuttelman (Chris' wife)	Expecting
Naomi Wollberg (Matthias Wollberg's wife)	Expecting
Andrew Powers (Kim Wilkens' brother)	Military
Roger Young (Tiffany Davis' father)	Parkinson's
Don Axeman (Bartels' friend)	Healing
Joan Bentley (Kreutzer's friend)	Healing
Norm Erickson (Jackie Zehendner's father)	Healing
Jerry Foote (Carol Herron's friend)	Healing
Randy Fritson (Carol Herron's friend)	Healing
Lorin Hartmann (Marla's father)	Healing
David Heapy (Janel Lange's father)	Healing
Roger Hoffman (Marc's father)	Healing
Luetta Lammers (Ruby Hatfield's sister)	Healing
Michelle Lewis (Joni Brooks' friend)	Healing
Paisley Mitchell (Bartels' great-granddaughter)	Healing
Tim Powers (Kim Wilkens' brother)	Healing
Randy Solomon (Beth Rosenthal's father)	Healing
Joanne Staton (Kristian Arevalo's grandmother)	Healing
Emily Zimmer (Leah Baker's friend)	Healing
Diane Brandt (Junge's and Helmbrecht's friend)	Cancer
Glenda Fichtner (Ruby Hatfield's niece)	Cancer
Ron Halvorsen (Jeff's dad)	Cancer
Lynda Kreutzer (Rich & Carol's sister-in-law)	Cancer
Helen Lange (Bartels' friend)	Cancer
Sharon Mulhair (Pam Uhlir's cousin)	Cancer
Lindsey Muniz (Steve & Fran's niece)	Cancer
Milton Naprstek (Marilyn Fuqua's brother)	Cancer
Tyrone Uhlir (Pam's nephew)	Cancer

Worship Assistants

Monday, December 25th - 10:00a - Christmas Day

Elder: Eric Rosenthal Usher: Mike Wilkens
Acolyte: Grace Burger Engineer: Zach DeLoach
Crucifer: Landen Eckhoff Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal &
Announcer: Lonna Gronewoller Shirley Helmbrecht

Sunday, December 31st - 9:00a

Elder: Ken Hockemeier Usher: Steve Junge
Acolyte: Addison Splittgerber Engineer: Zach DeLoach
Announcer: Carol Kreutzer Altar Guild: Beth Rosenthal &
Shirley Helmbrecht

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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Pr. Doug Gaunt, Pastor + (308) 455-0552 doug.gaunt@zionkearney.org

Tony Splittgerber, Principal + (308) 293-0168 anthony.splittgerber@zionkearney.org

Church Office

Administrative Assistant: Holly Reid

Email: school@zionkearney.org
Phone: (308)-234-3410 Fax: (308) 236-8100

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm Radio Broadcast: Sunday @ 10:30 a.m. on 1460

AM

Website: www.zionkearney.com

This Week at Zion

	10.00	
Mon 12/25	10:00a	The Festival of Our Lord's Nativity
	Birthdays	Justin Ronning
Tues 12/26		Office Closed
	Birthdays	Jana Flessner
		Lyn Hoffman
Wed 12/27	Anniversaries	Fred & Jana Flessner
	Birthdays	DyAnn Altwine
		Allison Wilkens
Thurs 12/28	Birthdays	Zachariah DeLoach
		Don Engel
		Jackie Zehendner
Fri 12/29		Heiden Family FH Setup
	Birthdays	Chelsea Herrera
Sat 12/30		Heiden Family - FH 8a-5p
	Birthdays	Betty Mustard
Sun 12/31	9:00a	Divine Service
	10:30a	Adult Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30a	Radio Broadcast
		1460AM & 92.1FM
	5:00p	Divine Service

Announcements for December 25th, 2023

Office Closed: The office will be closed Monday and Tuesday for the Christmas holiday, as well as New Year's Day.

<u>Bible Reading Cards</u>: A new set of Bible reading cards for the New Year can be picked up in the church entryway. Each card is a tool to keep track of your Bible reading progress as you mark each chapter you have read in 2024. God works through His word.

<u>2023 Contributions</u>: Just a reminder for contributions to be counted as 2023 they must be dated December 31, 2023 and put in the plate by December 31, 2023.

Radio Broadcast & Altar Flowers: The sign-up sheets for the 2024 radio broadcasts and flowers are on the bulletin board by the mailboxes. If you want a certain date, sign up ASAP.

4th Quarter Missions: Zion's fourth quarter mission project, October through December, will be supporting Zion students studying to be Church workers:

Peter Kreutzer (Concordia) LTD

Jessica Zehendner (Concordia) LTD

Those wishing to donate, please use the mission envelopes located in the narthex and place them in the offering plates.

SCHOOL NEWS

<u>24-25 Registration:</u> A Google form was sent out for 24-25 registration for any students who will be 1st-8th next year. Contact Holly if you need the link. Registration will open to the public on January 3rd.

<u>Basketball:</u> The basketball schedule is posted on the app. The first game will be on January 9^{th} @ Trinity GI.