



Sunday, January 12, 2025
Baptism of Our Lord

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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HOLY COMMUNION

Setting Three

Regular font: Worship Leader; Bold font: Congregation

GATHERING

WELCOME

Please stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act

with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear;

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults

and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways.

Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN “Shall We Gather at the River” **ELW 423**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

pg. 138

GLORY TO GOD

pg. 139

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD

Please be seated

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ 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.

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶ 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—
7 everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29

- ¹ Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.
² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God’s name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**
³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory
thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.
⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**
⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;
⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**
⁷ The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.
⁸ **The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.**
⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips
the | forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, “Glory!”
¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**
¹¹ O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.

SECOND READING Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John

laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The holy gospel according to Luke the 3rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.”

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² 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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Sara Stall-Ryan

One Minute of Silence is kept for reflection.

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY “Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”

ELW 304

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

pg. 234

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans (local bodies of water may be named). Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace, hear our prayer.

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace, hear our prayer.

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery (especially). Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace, hear our prayer.

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace, hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

PEACE

pg. 128

MEAL

Please be seated

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always. **Amen.**

Please Stand

GREAT THANKSGIVING

pg. 144

It is indeed right...

SANCTUS

pg. 144

Please kneel or sit

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional)*

pg. 145

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Please be seated

LAMB OF GOD

pg. 146

Please kneel or sit

COMMUNION HYMNS

“All Are Welcome”

ELW 641

“Baptized and Set Free”

ELW 453

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God
+ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "Cold December Flies Away" ELW 299

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

SERVING TODAY

Geri Pearson - Lector
Deb Gustafson - Worship Assistant
Rick Borg, Donna Berndtson, Adam Stall-Ryan
- Ushers/Greeters
Donna Marlow - Altar Guild
Sarah Dzialo - Organist

Prayer List

For Health:			For Safety:
Clara W	Allen H	Peter W	Erik S
Joyce G	Matthew A	Milluzzo and Neri families	Andrew C
Bill B	Bud J	Joan A	Todd S
Cathy L	Marjorie F	Shirley C	Michael C
Marion B	Jessica A	Diane E	Tyler G
Lily V	Charlotte D	Dick C	Erik B
Holly N	Jonathan A	Karen R	Justin Earl B
Dylan G	Pauline N	The family of Shaun M	Evan G
Lisa A	Curt R	Carol J	David P
Aiden J	Matthew S		
Helen A	Lloyd P		
	Phil O		



Adult Education continues this year with “The Chosen”. Episodes will be shown on the 1st and 3rd Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Discussions will be held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 10:30 a.m.



Sunny Hill Preschool will be holding an Open House on **Wednesday, January 15, 2025** from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. **Come meet the teachers. Bring your children.** The snow date is January 24th



Annual Meeting Notice:
THE ANNUAL MEETING will take place on Sunday, January 26, 2025 immediately following the Service. The Snow date is February 2, 2025.

Please submit your reports no later than January 15, 2025



The Word in Season Daily Devotions for January, February and March are available in the Narthex and the Red Box outside the door with the doorbell.



Make sure to use a **Goodwill Good Neighbor Donation Card** whenever you donate to Goodwill.

See Donna Berndtson for the donation cards and details.

MHVC Seeking Tenors and Basses

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chord family, under the direction of musical director Samuel Tucker and accompanied by an eight-piece orchestra directed by the talented Alan Dougherty, is seeking tenors and basses to join our chorus. No auditions necessary!

If you have been considering doing something this year to enhance your life, make new friends and reduce stress levels, please consider joining our musical family. Rehearsals begin Tuesday, January 21st at 6:45-9:00 at Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, St Francis Church, 10 Elm Street, Middletown, CT, for our upcoming spring concert on Saturday, May 3rd, 7:00 pm at Portland High School. New members accepted through February 4th. For more information, visit us on the web at vocalchords20.org or call Joyce at 860-342-3120. Also, check us out on Instagram, Facebook and YouTube.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE LOS ANGELES WILDFIRES

JANUARY 2025

ELCA.org/wildfires

In early January, multiple wildfires broke out across Los Angeles County in California, with over 100,000 people under evacuation orders. Sparked by dry conditions, strong winds and a limited water supply, these fires have destroyed homes and businesses and have led to injuries and loss of life.

This disaster is just one of many — including hurricanes, war and famine — to which Lutheran Disaster Response is still responding. Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond quickly and generously, whenever and wherever disaster may strike.

Though we don't yet know the full impact of the fires, Lutheran Disaster

Response is here to support the families and communities that will be rebuilding their lives. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Southwest California Synod and Pacifica Synod to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. We will work with them to provide for immediate needs amid the destruction as well as to assist with recovery efforts for months and years to come.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to those affected by wildfires and other disasters. By giving to Lutheran Disaster Response, you give the gift of relief today and resilience tomorrow.

YES, I WANT TO HELP!

- Lutheran Disaster Response \$ _____ DDG0060
- Lutheran Disaster Response: *U.S. Wildfires* \$ _____ DDG0077

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Note: make your check payable to Zion Lutheran Church and write Lutheran Disaster Response or U.S. Wildfires on your check's memo line. We will send them in one check.

Today: January 12, 2025

Baptism of Our Lord

9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion

10:30 a.m. Adult Education

11:30 a.m. True Vine Church

This Week:

Monday: **6:00 p.m.** N/A

Tuesday: **10:00 a.m.** Happy Handz

Wednesday: **4:30 - 6:00 p.m.** Sunny Hill Open House

Thursday: **5:30 p.m.** Cub Scouts

Friday: **10:00 a.m.** Happy Handz

7:00 p.m. N/A

Saturday: **9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** Happy Handz

Next Sunday:

January 19, 2025

Second Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

11:30 a.m. True Vine Church



Attendance: Last week - 57; Last year - 0 (Snow Storm)

Next weeks readings: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10;
1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

MISSION STATEMENT

As members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, we exist to honor and proclaim the life of Jesus Christ through our words, actions and deeds.

VISION STATEMENT

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church shall be a prominent magnet in the community to draw people to a new life in Jesus Christ.

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