

Zion Lutheran Church The Divine Service

Last Sunday of the Church Year

Welcome

Before Service Prayer

Let our souls, we beseech thee, Almighty God, achieve this their desire, to be kindled by thy Spirit; that being filled as lamps by the divine gift, we may shine like blazing lights before the presence of thy Son Christ at his coming.

Gelasian Sacramentary

The Lord is faithful in all His words. He does not lie when He says, "Though your sins be scarlet they shall be as white as snow. Though they be red like crimson they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:18) The great Physician of souls, Who is the ready liberator, not of you alone, but of all who are enslaved by sin, is ready to heal your sickness. From Him come the words, it was His sweet and saving lips that said, "They that be whole need not a physician but they that are sick [...]. I am not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." (Matthew 9:12-13) What excuse have you, what excuse has anyone, when He speaks thus? The Lord wishes to cleanse you from the trouble of your sickness and to show you light after darkness. The good Shepherd, Who left them that had not wandered away, is seeking after you. If you give yourself to Him He will not hold back. He, in His love, will not disdain even to carry you on His own shoulders, rejoicing that He has found His sheep which was lost. The Father stands and awaits your return from your wandering. Only come back, and while you are yet afar off, He will run and fall upon your neck, and, now that you are cleansed by repentance, will enwrap you in embraces of love. He will clothe with the chief robe the soul that has put off the old man with all his works; He will put a ring on hands that have washed off the blood of death, and will put shoes on feet that have turned from the evil way to the path of the Gospel of peace. He will announce the day of joy and gladness to them that are His own, both angels and men, and will celebrate your salvation far and wide.

St. Basil, Letter 46

We are very happy that you are here today!

At Zion, the bulletin and Lutheran Service Book (LSB) are both used to lead us through our worship. To help guide you during the service, below are some helpful tips.

- For each section of the Divine Service, the page number in the hymnal is listed in the bulletin on the right side of the page, i.e., *LSB 184*, which is found towards the front of the hymnal. All responses are sung unless they are printed in the bulletin.
- P indicates sections spoken by the Pastor. C indicates responses by the Congregation and will be in **bold** print.
- All hymns are listed in the bulletin with the name of the hymn and page number, i.e., *Thy Strong Word LSB 578*. They are also shown on the Hymn board at the front of the church.
- The *red text* in both the bulletin and the hymnal shows when the congregation should stand or sit during the Divine Service. The Pastor may also provide direction.

A Special Welcome to Those with Young Children

At Zion we want families with children to feel at home.

- First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at Zion.
- To make it a bit easier on your family, please dare to sit toward the front where your children can easily see the front of the Church, note the colors, watch the pastor, wonder about the stained-glass windows above the altar and embrace the action at the altar. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.
- As we go, softly explain the Liturgy to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: Amen! Lord have mercy! And with thy Spirit! I believe! Our Father! All of that belongs to them too.

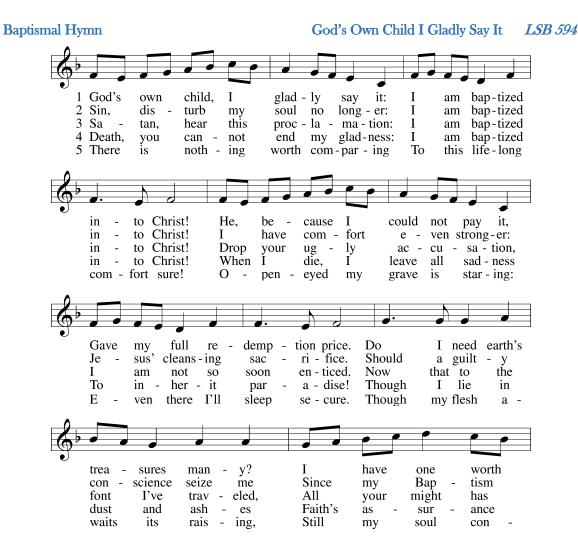
- Be sure to sing and say and pray your parts too as you stand and sit. Your children learn by following your lead.
- If you and your child must leave, please hurry back. We want you and your children here very much.
- If you need a little help, just ask. There are lots of folks here who will lend you a hand.
- Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).

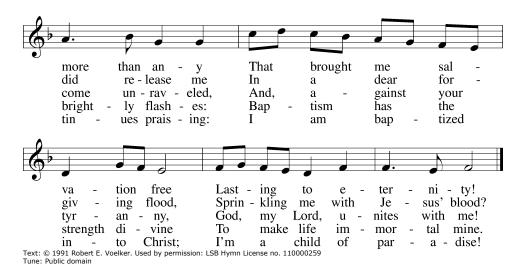
We know that your children are a gift to the Church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help and bless you all. Welcome to Zion!



Divine Service, Setting Three

The Preparation





Stand

- P In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Therefore, depart, you unclean spirit, and make room for the Holy Spirit in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

- **P** How are you named?
- R [Name]

- [Name], receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your + forehead and upon your + heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.
- P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold [name(s)] according to Your boundless mercy and bless them with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in them, which has been inherited from Adam and which they themselves have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that they be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, they would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- C Amen.
- P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

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

Lord's Prayer

- P Lord, Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray;
 - 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.

- P The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even

 forevermore.
- C Amen.

Sit

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

- [Name(s)], do you renounce the devil?
- R Yes, I renounce him.
- **P** Do you renounce all his works?
- **R** Yes, I renounce them.
- **P** Do you renounce all his ways?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?
- **R** *Yes, I believe.*
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?
- R Yes, I believe.
- **P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?
- **R** *Yes, I believe.*
- **P** [Name], do you desire to be baptized?
- R Yes, I do.

- [P] [Name], I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life + everlasting.
- C Amen.

The pastor may place a white garment on the newly baptized while saying:

Receive this white garment to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

- P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.
- A In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you members of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brothers and sisters in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- **G** Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted [name(s)] the new birth in Holy Baptism and made members of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as they have now become Your children, You would keep them in their baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure they may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- C Amen.
- Peace + be with you.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 39:4-5, 7-8; antiphon: Isaiah 35:10

- The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing;* everlasting joy shall be up- on their heads.
- They shall obtain glad- | ness and joy,* and sorrow and sighing shall | flee away.
- P O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure | of my days;* let me know how fleeting | I am!
- Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing be- | fore you.*

Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath!

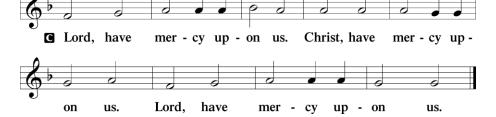
- And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?*

 My hope | is in you.
- Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*

 Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with | singing;* everlasting joy shall be up- | on their heads.
- They shall obtain glad- ness and joy,* and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

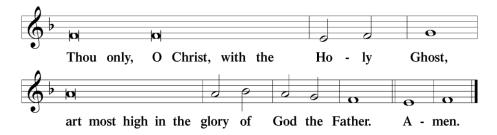
Kyrie

LSB 186



Gloria in Excelsis





Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 189

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And with thy spirit.
- **P** Let us pray.

O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that, from the bonds of our sins which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

The Old Testament reading for the Last Day of the Church Year is from Isaiah, the sixty-fifth chapter.

"Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days.

or an old man who does not fill out his

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years old,
and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labor in vain
or bear children for calamity,
for they shall be the offspring of the blessed

for the young man shall die a hundred

of the LORD, and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall graze together;

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

the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain," says the LORD.

Gradual Psalm 45:14-15

- P In many-colored robes [the king's daughter] is led to the king, with her virgin companions following behind her.
- With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.

Epistle Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Epistle Reading is from First Thessalonians, the fifth chapter.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

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

Stand

Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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LSB 190

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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 'H' of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying LSB 516





Sermon

Be Wise and Prepare Your Oil

Matthew 25:1-13





Prayer of the Church

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.

From the height of heaven, O virgins, the sound of a voice makes itself heard, awakening the dead: toward the Bridegroom, it says, let us all go in haste, clad in our white garments, our lamps in our hands, to the East.

Methodius of Olympos,

3rd century

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Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 194



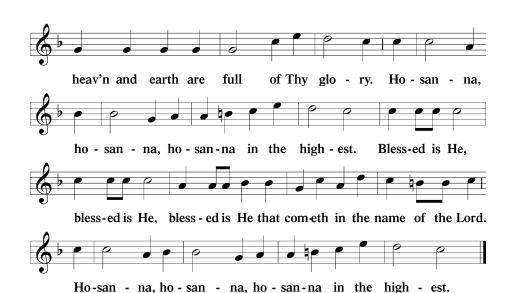
Proper Preface

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. [...] Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Words of Our Lord LSB 197

P 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.

Agnus Dei LSB 198



Distribution

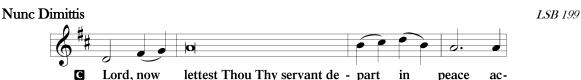
We at Zion Lutheran Church of Augsburg believe and confess along with the Holy Scriptures, that this bread and wine in the Sacrament of Holy Communion are truly the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, instituted by Christ Himself, for us Christians to eat and drink. The gifts of His physical body and blood are given in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine at the altar Those who are communicant members of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation are welcome to commune at this altar with us. Other guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament are invited to meet with the Pastor for Catechesis before communing. Anyone not

communing may still come forward, crossing their arms at the rail, to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

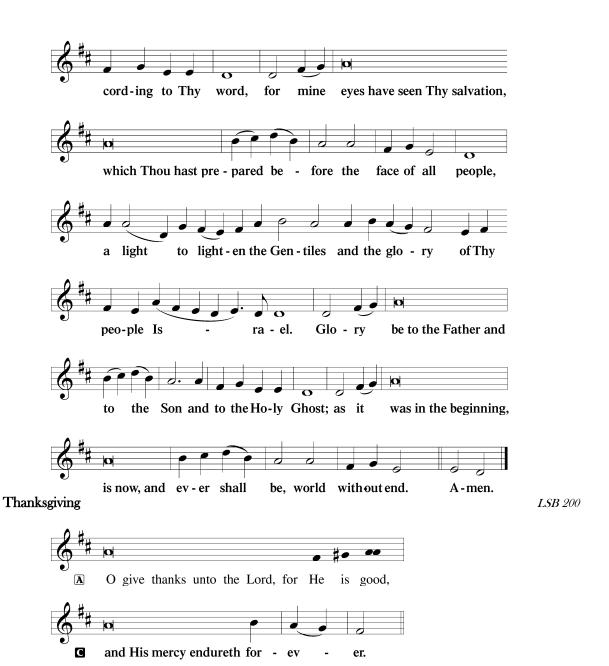
Communion Hymn

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart LSB 641





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Post-Communion Collect LSB 201

men.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, [...] through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Salutation, Benedicamus, and Benediction

P The Lord be with you.



P Bless we the Lord.



P The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord makes His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and

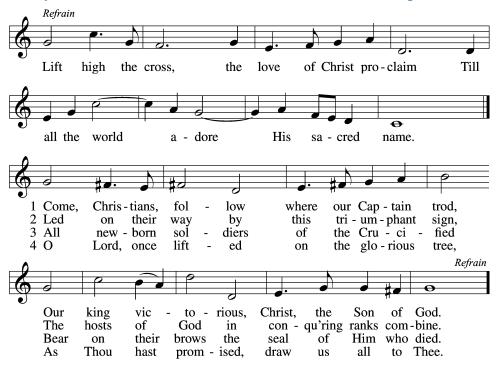
→ give you peace.



Sit

Recessional Hymn

Lift High the Cross LSB 837



- 5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain
- 6 So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

The Prayers of the Church

Persecuted Christians in:

Egypt

Uzbekistan

Mvanmar

Laos

Vietnam

Partner Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church

of Argentina

Comfort, Health, and Recovery

Rick Shott

Amy Villalobos (sister-in-law of Katie)

Glenda Schrock

Dianne McKissack (boss of Nikki Dorn)

Lance Spence (friend of Katie Villalobos)

Marie Heiser

Joyce Mendenhall (friend of Susan Colles)

Julie Buchy (friend of Tony Waldo)

Pattie Ward

Elizabeth Sharp (friend of the Campbells)

Tasha Iarmillo (sister of Ioe Villalobos)

Trina Bailey (friend of Waldo family)

Bob Allen

Susan Allen

David Knoerschild

Peggy Flatt (friend of Susan Colles)

Angela Jones (friend of Phyllis Campbell)

Alvin Drittler

Fave Drittler

Janice Conley (friend of Delores McDaniel)

Tasha Schlittenhart

Rev. James Walter (Rev. Ralston's childhood Pastor)

Rebecca Stuck (Daughter of Campbell's)

Homebound

Dorothy Birkhahn

Betty Bocksnick

Nettie Grant

Gwen Hale

Tom Harms

Kenneth Hottinger Sr.

Helen Rick

Glenda Schrock

Lawrence Steuber

Catechumens

Emmett Schlittenhart

Gavin Rion

Tatum Rion

Alison Waldo

Alivia Waldo

Chance Paylor

Serving in the armed forces

Logan Kremers

Matthew Allen

Brian Rutledge

Trent Hale

Josh Imme

Dale Ozment

When hospitalized, sick, needing prayer or absolution, contact Pastor Ralston anytime at 501-454-0581.

Z Life ogether



Last Sunday of the Church Year November 22, 2020

The Fruits of Our Faith 11/15/2020

Present in Worship: 40 Adult Sunday School: 0 Children's Sunday School: 8

Weekly Budget Offering Needed: \$2,620

Advent Series

Based on Harold Senkbeil's *Christ and Calamity*, our Advent themes comfort, strengthen, and bring understanding to Christian faith in the midst of suffering. Specifically, we'll observe how sin manifests itself within us during times of a pandemic - faithlessness, affliction, sadness, and loneliness. Yet, Christ is the answer to our sin. God points us towards the eternal hope we have in Jesus our Savior. These themes help prepare us for the penitential theme in Advent, as we await our Savior who becomes our Immanuel, which means "God With Us".

<u>December 2</u> - When you are faithless, Christ is your faithfulness

<u>December 9</u> - When you cry out, Christ is your Advocate

<u>December 16</u> - When you are sad, Christ is your joy

<u>December 23</u> - When you are alone, Christ is with you

Class Recordings Online

If you would like to listen to previous Confirmation, Catechumenate, or Adult Bible classes, you can find all recordings underneath the "Congregational Life" tab on the Church website's homepage.

New Bible Study Time

With the re-formatted schedule, Bible Study will start at 10:15 and go until 11:10. Masks are required for attendance.

Fall Fest Proceeds

On Sunday, December 6th, the proceeds from Fall Fest will be distributed to the River Valley Christian Clinic and to the Food Pantry. The presentation of the checks will be at 11:00. pictures will be taken. The more people can be there, the better!

Poinsettias for Christmas

Help adorn the sanctuary for the Christmas season by purchasing poinsettias for only \$8 each! The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Chancel Flowers

The chancel flowers are given by Ray Roth in memory of Nancy's birthday.



Lutheran Church

93 Augsburg Rd London, AR 72847 PO Box 327 Dover, AR 72837 479-331-3977

The Reverend Joshua Ralston Pastor

Rusty Dorn

Congregational President

Jeff Schlittenhart

Head Elder

Diane Ragsdale

LWML President

Nikki Dorn

Treasurer

Angelia Paylor

Assistant Treasurer

Phyllis Campbell

Office Assistant

Email: rev.jralston@gmail.com Website: zionaugsburg.org Facebook: facebook.com/ AugsburgZionLutheranChurch

If calling for a Pastoral Emergency, contact Pastor Ralston directly:

Cell......501-454-0581 Church......479-331-3277

Restrooms

Restrooms are located in the Narthex outside of the Sanctuary and in the basement Fellowship Hall. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

Nursery

The Nursery is located in the Narthex outside of the Sanctuary.

Congregational Membership

New members are received by Baptism, Confirmation, Transfer, or Profession of Faith (after receiving Pastoral instruction). Please speak with Pastor Ralston for more details.

Pastoral Consultation

Pastoral Consultation based on the Holy Scriptures is available from the Pastor. Please speak with Pastor Ralston to make an appointment.

Sick and Homebound

The sick and homebound are visited regularly by the Pastor with the Scriptures and Sacrament. Please contact Pastor Ralston if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

Pastor's Bible Study, Teen, and Children's Sunday School

Sunday School begins at 11:45 am. Anyone from confirmation age on up is welcome to attend Bible Study. Teen and Children's Sunday School is held **every Sunday** in the basement Fellowship Hall/Family Center (Ages 0 and up).

Listen to Lutheran Radio

Listen: Issues, Etc. is talk-radio for the thinking Christian. Listen 24/7 at www.IssuesETC.org *The Lutheran Hour* is broadcast on KARV 610 AM/101.3 FM every Sunday at 7:30AM.