



Zion

Lutheran Church

93 Augsburg Rd
London, AR 72847
PO Box 327
Dover, AR 72837
479-331-3277

✠ Soli Deo Gloria ✠

Pastor

Rev. Joshua Ralston

Altar Guild

Susan Colles, Wanda Choate,
Phyllis Campbell

Organist

Susan Colles

Acolyte

Bree Kuretsch

Trustee

Tony Waldo

Elder

Brian Cotner

Ushers

John Gallagher, Tony Waldo,
Don Paul Choate, Larry Williams

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

Cell.....501-454-0581

Church.....479-331-3277

✠ Life Together ✠

The Prayers of the Church

Persecuted Christians:

Kenya, Russia, Malaysia, Kuwait, Oman

Partner Church:

Japan Lutheran Church

Comfort, Health, and Recovery:

Jodie Rowe	Kathleen Kremers	LaDonna Yeager
Louis Reece	Larry DeBusk	Scott Merton
Dennis Rowe	Debbie Keeling	

Homebound:

Betty Bocksnick	Glenda Schrock	Gwen Hale
Ray Roth	Charli Callahan	

The Fruits of Our Faith – 12/08/2024

Worship Attendance: 66 Adult Sunday School: 18

Children/High School Sunday School: 9

Offering: \$ 3,405.00 Food Pantry: \$ 1,820.00

Altar Flowers

The flowers adorning the altar are given by Bo Rowe in celebration of the nativity of Christ.

Reaffirmation of Vows Service

Everyone is invited to attend Don Paul and Wanda Choate’s reaffirmation of vows for their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, December 21st at 7:30 PM. Let us celebrate this great milestone of God’s blessing!

Christmas Schedule of Services

December 24th – Children’s Christmas Program - 7:00 PM

Christmas Reception – 7:30 PM (bring a finger food)

Divine Service – 9:00 PM

December 25th – Divine Service – 10:00 AM

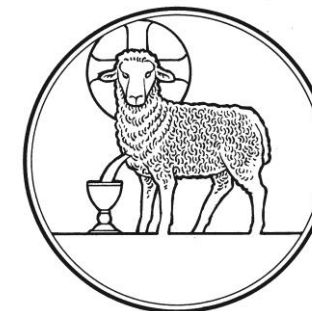
December Food Pantry

December’s food distribution will be this coming Saturday! Please let Chuck Campbell (501-725-1377) know if you can help pack boxes or distribute food.

Zion Lutheran Church

The Divine Service

Third Sunday in Advent



Welcome

On the first Sunday in Advent, we are reminded to “watch.” This week, we are told to “prepare.” Ultimately, Christ alone prepares us to receive Him by His Holy Spirit through Baptism. Even so, we must come prepared to receive His grace and forgiveness in true repentance and faith. To this end, Johann Gerhard writes: “Christ does not enter the heart of a man unless a John the Baptist first prepares the way for Him by repentance. God does not pour the oil of His mercy except into the vessel of a truly contrite heart. God first puts the soul to death, as it were, through contrition, that He may afterwards quicken it through the consolation of the Holy Spirit (1 Samuel 2:6). He casts it down to hell in godly sorrow for sin, that He may bring it up again by the blessed power of His grace... The terror of the law precedes the sweetness of divine love, and sorrow for sin the consolation of the Spirit. God does not bind up thy wounds, until thou acknowledge and deplore thy sin. God does not cover thine iniquities, until thou first uncover them in humble penitence; He forgives them not until thou hast confessed them; He does not justify thee until thou hast first condemned thyself; and He does not afford His rich consolations until thou hast first despaired of help in thyself. May God work true repentance in us through His Holy Spirit!”

Johann Gerhard, Sacred Meditations

December 15, 2024 ✠ 10:00 AM

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. Below are some helpful tips:

The starting page number in the hymnal is listed in the bulletin on the top of the tab, i.e., *LSB 184*, which is found towards the front of the hymnal. **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 page number, i.e., *LSB 578*. They are also shown on the Hymn board at the front of the church. The *bold italic text* on the tab of the bulletin shows when the service continues with the information on the page to the right.

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. 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. 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). Children's "Busy Bags" are located in the Narthex hallway for your convenience.



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.

Introit

Psalm 85:1-2; 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4-5

- P** Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will | say, Rejoice.
- C** Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.
- P** Lord, you were favorable | to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.
- C** You forgave the iniquity of your | people;*
you covered | all their sin.
- P** Will you not revive | us again,*
that your people may re- | joice in you?
- C** Let me hear what God the | Lord will speak,*
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not
turn back to | folly.
- C** 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.
- P** Rejoice in the Lord | always,*
again I will | say, Rejoice.
- C** Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.

Collect of the Day

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual

Psalm 80:1-2

- P** You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
Stir up your might and come to save us!
- C** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!

Readings for The Third Sunday in Advent

Old Testament – *Isaiah 40:1-11* (p.712)
Epistle – *I Corinthians 4:1-5* (p.1133)
Holy Gospel – *Matthew 11:2-11* (p.969)

Divine Service IV

LSB 203

The Preparation

Processional Hymn #349

Invocation

Confession & Absolution p.203

Service of the Word

Introit

Kyrie p.204

Salutation and Collect p.205

Old Testament Reading p.205

Gradual

Epistle Reading p.205

Alleluia & Verse p.205

Holy Gospel Reading p.206

Nicene Creed p.206

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #334

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface p. 208

Sanctus p. 208

Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 209

Lord's Prayer p. 209

The Words of Our Lord p. 209

Pax Domini p. 209

Agnus Dei p. 210

Distribution Hymns

(#344, 602, 635)

Nunc Dimittis p. 211

Post-Communion Collect p. 212

Benedicamus and

Benediction p. 212

Closing Hymn #346