



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

Linton Dorn

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:

Sri Lanka, Colombia, Bangladesh, Palestinian Territories, Azerbaijan

Partner Church:

Consistory of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania

Comfort, Health, and Recovery:

Jodie Rowe	Kathleen Kremers	LaDonna Yeager
Louis Reece	Larry DeBusk	Scott Merton
Dennis Rowe	Bill Manning	Rick Shott
Linda Lakso	Katie McGee	

Homebound:

Betty Bocksnick	Glenda Schrock	Gwen Hale
Ray Roth	Charli Callahan	

The Fruits of Our Faith – 12/15/2024

Worship Attendance: 77 Adult Sunday School: 15
Children/High School Sunday School: 13
Offering: \$ 22,581.00 Food Pantry: \$ 560.00

Altar Flowers

The flowers adorning the altar are given by Don and Wanda Choate in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Christmas Reception

Please come enjoy a time of fellowship after the Children’s Program on Christmas Eve! Bring a sweet or savory finger food to share!

Christmas Eve Schedule

Children’s Christmas Program – 7:00 PM
Christmas Reception – 7:30 PM
Christmas Eve Service – 9:00 PM

Christmas Day

The Christmas Day service will be held at 10:00 AM on December 25th.

Installation of Church Officers

Church Officers for 2025 will be installed Sunday, January 12th during the Divine Service.

Zion Lutheran Church

The Divine Service

Fourth Sunday in Advent



Welcome

The word *makarious* means more than simply “to call blessed”; its meaning is rather “to bless,” or to “make blessed.” This consists not merely in saying the words, bending the knee, bowing the head, doffing the hat, making images, or building churches; for this even the wicked can do. But it is done with all one’s strength and with downright sincerity, when the heart, moved by her low estate and God’s gracious regard of her, as we have seen, rejoices in God and says or thinks with all its heart, “O Blessed Virgin Mary!” So to bless her is to accord her the honor that is her due, as we have seen.

Martin Luther, "The Magnificat," AE21:324

December 22, 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 cry room 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 19:1, 4-6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a

- P** Shower, O heavens, | from above,*
and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;
- C** **let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;***
let the earth cause them | both to sprout.
- P** The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,*
and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.
- C** **Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to**
the end | of the world.*
In them he has set a tent | for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,*
and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.
- C** **Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to**
the | end of them,*
and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.
- 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** Shower, O heavens, | from above,*
and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;
- C** **let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;***
let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

Collect of the Day

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual

Psalm 145:18, 21

- P** The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.
- C** **My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,**
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

Readings for The Fourth Sunday in Advent

Old Testament – *Deuteronomy 18:15-19 (p.190)*

Epistle – *Philippians 4:4-7 (p.1166)*

Holy Gospel – *Luke 1:39-56 (p.1017)*

Divine Service IV

LSB 203

The Preparation

Processional Hymn *Choir*

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 *#357*

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

(#818, 347, 849)

Nunc Dimittis *p. 211*

Post-Communion Collect *p. 212*

Benedicamus and

Benediction *p. 212*

Closing Hymn *#332*