

# Zion Lutheran

**Mission: Creating Community Through  
God's Love and Guidance**



FOURTH SUNDAY OF

*Advent*

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

December 22, 2024

## **ORDER OF SERVICE**

**(The assembly speaks the bold print)**

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### **PRELUDE**

Please respect this time before worship for those who want to pray quietly in the sanctuary. Once the prelude begins, please use that time to listen to the music and prepare for worship. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN#279**                   “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

### **BLESSING AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

The Draheim-Budde Family

### **ADVENT WREATH HYMN#240**

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”  
verse 4 only

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
alive in the world,  
reviving creation,  
arriving soon.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of mercy,  
**we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,  
**we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,  
**we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth:  
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,  
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
receive the grace and forgiveness of God  
through Christ Jesus,  
whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

### **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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

Micah 5:2-5a

A reading from Micah.

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; <sup>5a</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

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

### **PSALM: Luke 1:46b-55**

**Read responsively**

<sup>46b</sup> My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, <sup>47</sup> my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup> **for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:**

<sup>49</sup> you, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name.

<sup>50</sup> **You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.**

<sup>51</sup> You have shown strength with your arm and scattered the proud in their conceit,

<sup>52</sup> **casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.**

<sup>53</sup> You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup> **You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy,**

<sup>55</sup> the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.

## **SECOND READING**

Hebrews 10:5-10

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; <sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." <sup>8</sup> When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Setting 5

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." [ <sup>46</sup> And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. <sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; <sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY #254**      “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

**PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Creator God,  
you made the whole world,  
even the farthest stars,  
and you draw near to feed us.  
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.  
Strengthen us with this food  
that we may live in expectation  
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

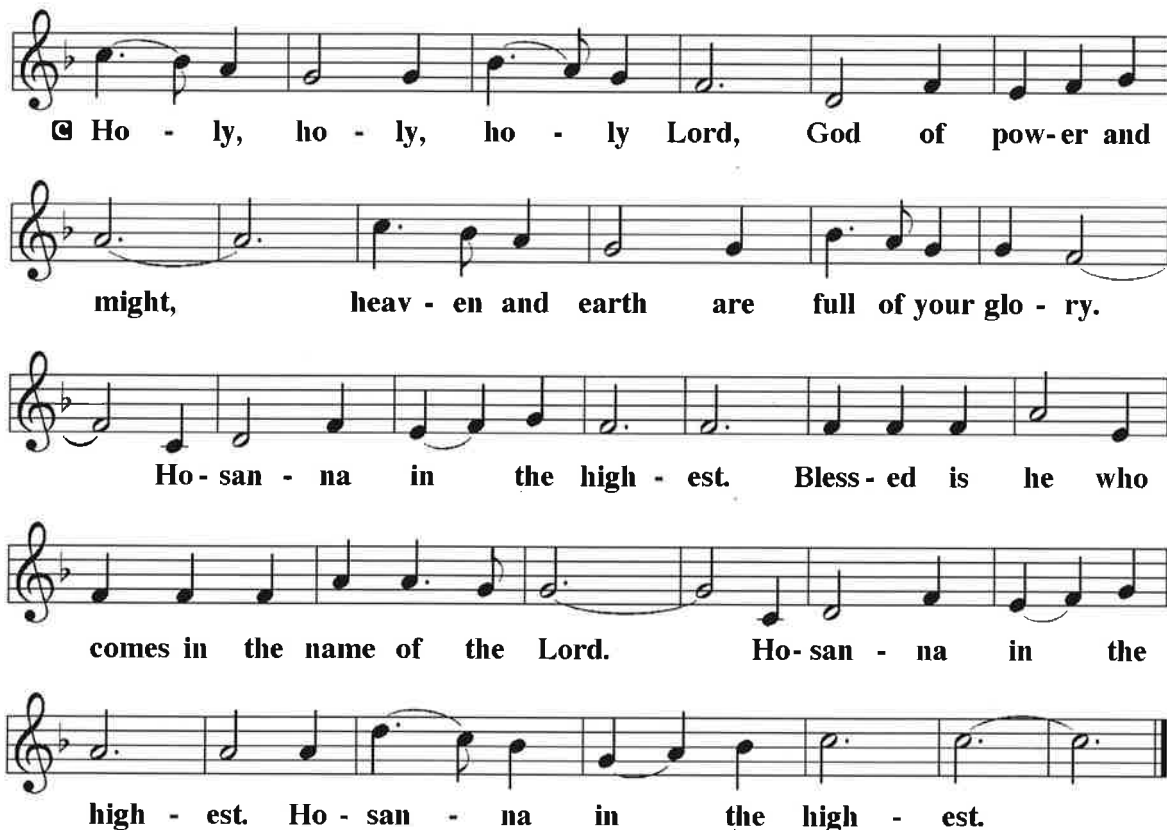
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

### HOLY HOLY HOLY

Setting 5



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

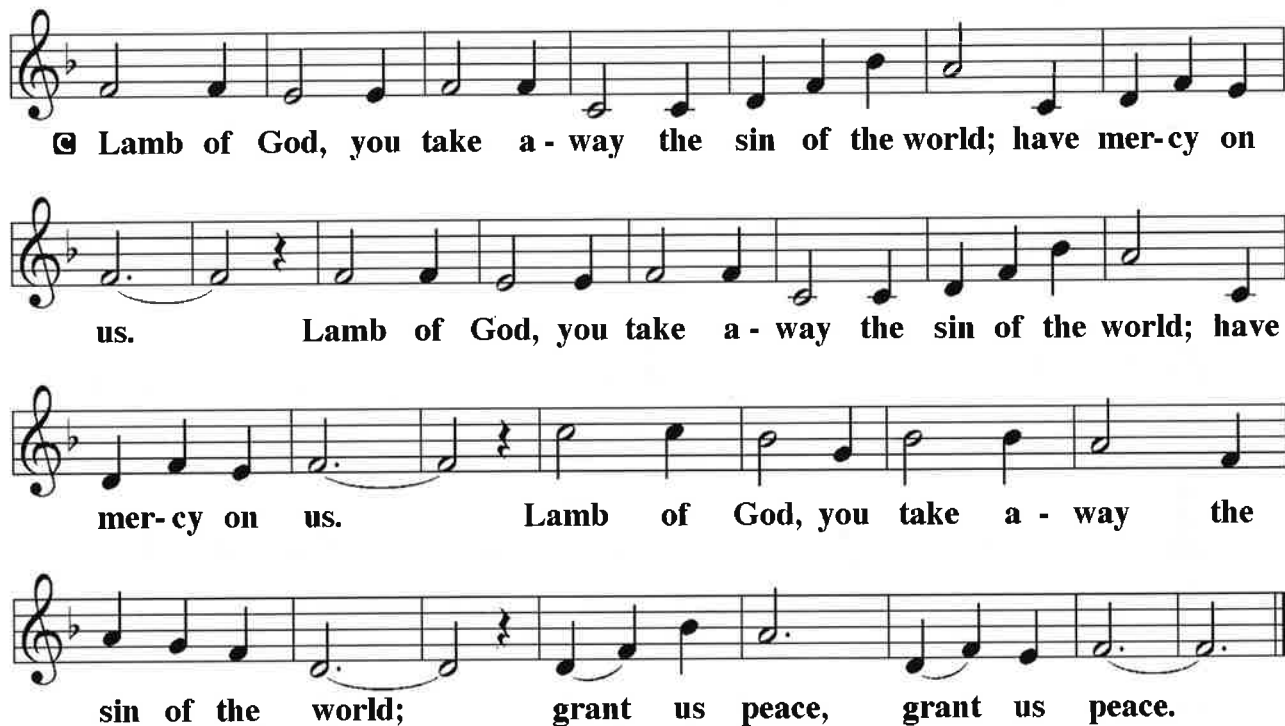
## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**



**♩** Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

**COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION HYMN**

“We Are Waiting for Jesus”

song leader will sing verse 1 then congregation will sing verses 1 & 2.



# We Are Waiting for Jesus



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

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## TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,

we thank you for the gift of life,  
for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us,  
for leading us into peace.

We thank you for showering us with mercy,  
for sending us into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us  
as we feed the hungry in your name.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

God of endings and beginnings,  
God in the darkness and the light,  
God, our hope for the journey,  
bless and keep you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN#723**

“Canticle of the Turning”

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**Creating Community through God’s Love and Guidance —  
thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

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**Pastor:** Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

**Assisting Minister:** Wendy Sachs

**Reader:** Kyle Moseng

**Acolyte:** Freya Budde

**Office Coordinator:** Kimberly Gordon kimberly@zionappleton.org

**Church Administrator:** Karen Farlow karen@zionappleton.org

**Maintenance Engineer:** Elliot Pegel

**Parish Nurse:** Kandie Wilz kw4421333@gmail.com (920) 442-1333

**Worship & Music Assistant:** Heather Watney

heatherwatney@gmail.com

**Choir Director:** Cheryl Meyer

**Handbells:** Paula Staedt

**Zion Lutheran 920-739-3104**

**Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30am-2pm. Closed Friday.**

**The office will be closed the following holidays, Tuesday,**

**Dec. 24, Wednesday, Dec. 25, Tuesday, Dec. 31 & Wednesday,**

**Jan. 1. zion@zionappleton.org • www.zionappleton.org**

For Pastoral emergencies contact the office.

## **Welcome!**

We invite visitors to complete the card in the pew and put it in the collection basket. Thank You!

Attendance Last Week: 94

## Announcements!

**Today** is the last day to sign up for the Epiphany Brunch on Sunday, January 5, 2025. The brunch will be catered by Chef Joe Worden, formally chef at Grand Meridian. The cost will be \$5.00 for all adults, children not yet confirmed will be free of charge. Please put your money in any pew envelope & mark on the outside- Epiphany Brunch. Include the names of the people coming & if they are an adult or child. Put it in the offering basket. We will also need help with set up and clean up. Please see Deb Reis if you are willing to help.

Services will be held on Christmas Eve with a String Quartet at 4 pm and our Organ at 6 pm. There will not be a service on Christmas Day.

Take a candy cane ornament from our Giving Tree at the back of church, buy the food item listed and return it under the Giving Tree next week during service. The food collected will be used to fill Zion's Blessing Box and given to St. Joe's Food Pantry. There are also envelopes for monetary donations to St. Joe's Food Pantry & the Blessing Box. The Giving Tree will remain active through Epiphany (Sun, Jan 5).

All **2024** donations need to be received by **December 31, 2024**.

Each week a Daily Discipleship, which is a take home Bible Study, will be on the tables at the back of sanctuary for you to take with you. It will also be on the website in the section where the weekly bulletin is.

There will not be Tower Ringerz rehearsals on December 25 & January 1. The Zion Choir will not be rehearsing on December 29, January 5 & January 12.

Luke 3 verse 11 reminds us to give a coat to anyone who doesn't have one. We are collecting coats through Dec 29th for Pillars Resource Center located at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Appleton. Please place your gently used winter coats in the red bins in the back of the sanctuary.

Thanks to a very generous donation from a Zion member, we have installed an upgraded sound system in our church sanctuary. The system will improve the quality of the sound in the church as well as on YouTube for our remote viewers as well.

**Today** is the last day for the Streets of Bethlehem at Alliance Church, 2693 W. Grand Chute Blvd, Appleton. It is a free event from 5:30pm-9:00pm.

The Fox Valley Lions Medical Equipment Locker provides access to medical equipment without charge to the residents of the Fox Valley communities. They are always in need of new or used medical equipment. If you have any unused or unwanted medical equipment that is in good condition, please consider donating it to them. Hearing aid batteries can be donated at the locker, and people can come in when the locker is open and request free hearing aid batteries. Currently, there are 13,312 and some 675 batteries. They have a volunteer that is willing to drop off batteries at the church. For more information, please visit their website: <https://sites.google.com/view/fvlml/home>

On our website, [zionappleton.org](http://zionappleton.org), we have links to different articles about churches like ELCA Global Mission, Seeds of the parish & Concordia. We also have the messenger past & present & the bulletin past & present. Please take a look at all the information we have about Zion.

Lynn has gift cards for sale today. They are Fleet Farm, Pick N Save, Target & Walgreens. She is also available to take any other gift card orders you may need. The list of what gift cards are available is in the narthex.

If you purchased a poinsettia, you may pick it up from the sanctuary anytime after the 6 pm service on Christmas Eve. Please do not choose one of the artificial poinsettias. Thank you for your generosity.

See the insert for the calendar.

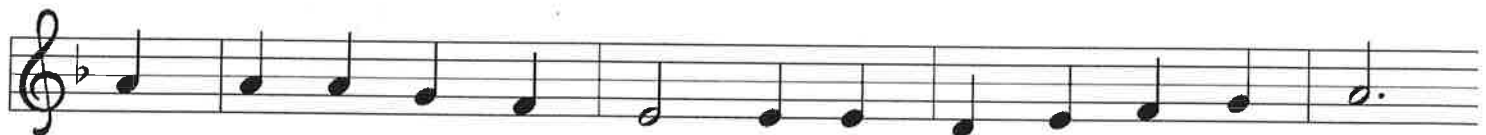
## O Little Town of Bethlehem



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.  
So God im-parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

# Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
 He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
 Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
 He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

# Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.



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**Sunday, December 22**

Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:46b-55

Heb 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45[46-55]

No Choir Rehearsal

**Worship Service 9:00 am**

followed by

Coffee Hour

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**Third Sunday of Advent**

Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs

Reader: Kyle Moseng

Acolyte: Freya Budde

Musician: Heather Watney

Opens: Gene Wiese

Closes: Tammy Mossholder

Musician: Jim Schley 7:00pm

Lights Advent Candles: The Draheim-Budde Family

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**Tuesday, December 24**

Isa 9:2-7, Ps 96

Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14[15-20]

**Worship Service 4:00 pm String Quartet**

**Worship Service 6:00 pm**

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**Christmas Eve**

**Office Closed**

Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

Assisting Minister 4:00pm service: Grace Van Eyck

Assisting Minister 6:00pm service: Tommy Meltz

Acolyte 4:00pm service: Charlee Weiland

Acolyte 6:00pm service: Freya Draheim

Musician 4:00pm service: Heather Watney

Musician 6:00pm service: Jim Schley

Opens: Gene Wiese

Closes: Jim Schley

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**Wednesday, December 25**

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**Christmas Day**

**Office Closed**

No Worship Services

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**Sunday, December 29**

1 Sam 2:18-20, 26; Ps 148

Col 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52

Coffee Hour

No Choir Rehearsal

**Worship Service 9:00 am**

followed by

Coffee Hour

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**1st Sunday of Christmas**

Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

Assisting Minister: Tommy Meltz

Reader: Jo Schiedermeyer

Acolyte: Lily Gruselle

Musician: Jim Schley

Opens: Greg Pettigrew

Closes: Tammy Mossholder

