

Zion Lutheran Church

Mascoutah, Illinois

December 20, 2023

3rd Advent Midweek Service



In the Name of Christ Jesus our Lord, we bid you a warm welcome to this worship service. May your experience of worship and fellowship this evening be spiritually refreshing and ready you for the week ahead.



Pastor: Rev. Kirk Clayton

Church Secretary: Robin Phillips

Choir Director Team: Josh and Nancy Peterson

Church Office Phone: 618-566-7345

Pastor Clayton Cell: 618-447-1306

Office Hours: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Email: ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org

Pastor Clayton email: Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org

Web site: www.ZionMascoutah.org

Find us at @ZionMascoutah on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

Electronic Devices

Please TURN OFF all cell phones, pagers, electronic devices, apps and games when entering the sanctuary for worship so those around you may focus on the Word of God without electronic distraction. Thank you.

Vespers

Hymn

What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

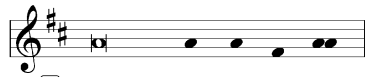
LSB 342

- 1 **What hope! An Eden prophesied Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side, Led by a little child!**
- 2 **A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem, A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem: The fruit of God's design.**
- 3 **As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world Would rally to the cross.**
- 4 **Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword—Come, open heaven's door.**

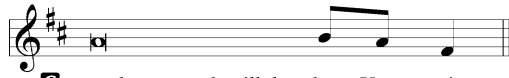
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Stand

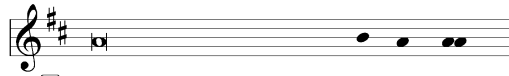
Opening Versicles *(Use Advent Response)*



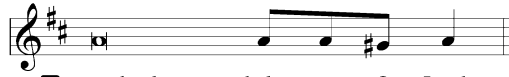
L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



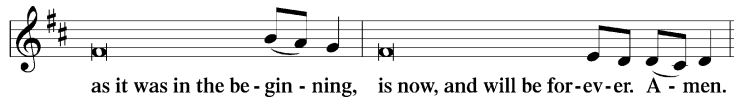
L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Common: Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.
Advent: Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.
Lent: Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

Psalmody

Psalm

Psalm 51

- P** Have mercy on me, O God,
C according to Your steadfast love;
P according to Your abundant mercy
C blot out my transgressions.
P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
C and cleanse me from my sin!
P For I know my transgressions,
C and my sin is ever before me.
P Against You, You only, have I sinned
C and done what is evil in Your sight,
P so that You may be justified in Your words
C and blameless in Your judgment.
P Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
C and in sin did my mother conceive me.
P Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being,
C and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
P Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
C wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
P Let me hear joy and gladness;
C let the bones that You have broken rejoice.
P Hide Your face from my sins,
C and blot out all my iniquities.
P Create in me a clean heart, O God,
C and renew a right spirit within me.
P Cast me not away from Your presence,
C and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
P Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
C and uphold me with a willing spirit.
P Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,
C and sinners will return to You.
P Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
C O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Your righteousness.
P O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
P For You will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
C You will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
P The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
C a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

P Do good to Zion in Your good pleasure;
C build up the walls of Jerusalem;
P then will You delight in right sacrifices,
C in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on Your altar.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Sit

First Reading

Numbers 5:1-4

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Command the people of Israel that they put out of the camp everyone who is leprous or has a discharge and everyone who is unclean through contact with the dead. You shall put out both male and female, putting them outside the camp, that they may not defile their camp, in the midst of which I dwell.” And the people of Israel did so, and put them outside the camp; as the LORD said to Moses, so the people of Israel did.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Numbers 19:11-13

“Whoever touches the dead body of any person shall be unclean seven days. He shall cleanse himself with the water on the third day and on the seventh day, and so be clean. But if he does not cleanse himself on the third day and on the seventh day, he will not become clean. Whoever touches a dead person, the body of anyone who has died, and does not cleanse himself, defiles the tabernacle of the LORD, and that person shall be cut off from Israel; because the water for impurity was not thrown on him, he shall be unclean. His uncleanness is still on him.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Third Reading

Mark 5:21-34

And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about Him, and He was beside the sea. Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing Him, he fell at His feet and implored Him earnestly, saying, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live.” And He went with him.

And a great crowd followed Him and thronged about Him. And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. For she said, “If I touch even His garments, I will be made well.” And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. And Jesus, perceiving in Himself that power had gone out from Him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched My garments?” And His disciples said to Him, “You see the crowd pressing around You, and yet You say, ‘Who touched Me?’” And He looked around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

While He was still speaking, there came from the ruler’s house some who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?” But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” And He allowed no one to follow Him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. And when He had entered, He said to them, “Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at Him. But He put them all outside and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with Him and went in where the child was. Taking her by the hand He said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” And immediately the girl got up and

began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. And He strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Advent Responsory



- L** 1 Behold, the days
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise
up for David a righ-teous Branch.
2 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will
dwell se - cure - ly.
3 Glory be to the
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



- C** This is the name
by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righ-teous-ness.

Hymn

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

LSB 563

- 1 Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
- 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
- 3 Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives' liberty, Was also shed in love for me.
- 4 Lord, I believe, were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.
- 5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Pastor Kirk Clayton to Preach "Our Lord's Authority over Death"

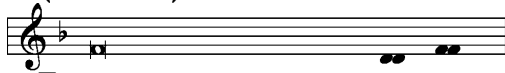
Offering

[Please fill out a sheet in the attendance book. Visitors, please include your address. If you have a prayer request for the church prayer chain, please write it at the top of the sheet.]

Stand

Antiphon (Common)

LSB 231



Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Canticle

Magnificat

LSB 248



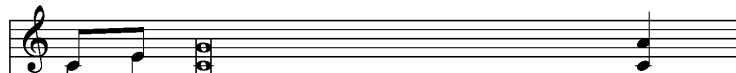
My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



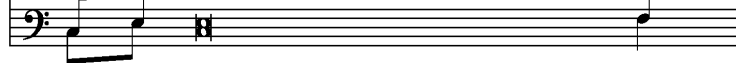
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the



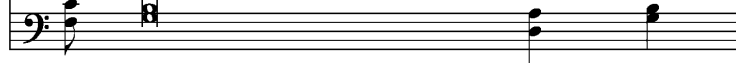
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



- 1 For _____ He has re - garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
- 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son



- 1 the lowliness of His hand - maiden.
- 2 and holy is His name;
- 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 4 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.
- 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this day
 2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
 5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,

1 all generations will call me blessèd.
 2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
 5 is now, and will be forever. A - men. *Refrain*

Prayer

Litany

LSB 249

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mer - cy.

- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For our Synodical President, Pastor Matthew Harrison, for our District President, Pastor Tim Scharr, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For our President, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the

Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C Alleluia!

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

P Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C To You, O Lord.

Collect For Peace

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect For the Third Sunday of Advent

P Let us pray. 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.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

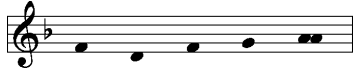
LSB 251

P Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

C 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.

Benedicamus

LSB 252



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 252



L The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve us.



♩ A - men.

Hymn

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

LSB 336

- 1 Lo! He comes with clouds descending, Once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.**
- 2 Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him, Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, Shall their true Messiah see.**
- 3 Those dear tokens of His passion Still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation To His ransomed worshipers.
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture Gaze we on those glorious scars!**
- 4 Yea, amen, let all adore Thee, High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory, Claim the kingdom as Thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!**

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Acknowledgments

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LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES TO BE IN GOD'S HOUSE

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the wonderful news of God's gift of a Savior, the Baby born at Christmas. The best way to prepare for Christmas is not buying presents and going to parties and concerts, but hearing God's Word in God's House. Here are the opportunities we have to gather together to hear God's Word and receive His gifts this Advent and Christmas season!

Wednesday, December 20, 7:00 PM: Advent Midweek Service, Pastor Clayton preaching on "Our Lord's Authority over Death"

Sunday, December 24, 6:00 PM: Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

Monday, December 25, 10:00 AM: Christmas Morning Divine Service

Please mark all of these opportunities on your calendar and join your brothers and sisters in faith in all of these services, as God comes to us to bless us and strengthen us! Being together in worship is the most important preparation for Christmas. We look forward to seeing you!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ZION'S NEW OFFICERS

At the Voter's Meeting held on Thursday, December 14, 2023, the following people were elected to offices at Zion Lutheran Church: Chairman, Mike Twenhafel; Vice Chairman, Jon Robinson; Council Secretary, Jean Kemezys; Board of Elders, Dan Eads and Ray Kemezys; Sunday School Superintendent, Anna Pannier; Asst. Sunday School Superintendent, Dawn Corey; Board of Trustees, Andy Sax, Carl Sherrill, and Lionel Timmerman; Board of Education, Bob Eldridge, Linda Hoskins, and Cary Robinson; and Board of Finance, Deb Heck and Cheryl Sax. Thanks to all those who allowed their names to be considered for elections. We pray God's blessings for diligent and Godly leadership as we look into the future. Please extend your congratulations and thanks to these individuals for being willing to serve in the Lord's church. We would like to say a big "thank you" to those who are finishing their terms in office, including Jon Robinson, Council Secretary; Tom Sax and Jeff Fick, Board of Elders; Marianne McDaniel, Sunday School Superintendent; Dan Eads and Greg Hoskins, Board of Trustees; and Jenny Kneschke and Amy Kolweier, Board of Finance. We thank and praise God for the dedicated people He provides to give guidance and leadership in His church.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE

Please pick up your 2024 offering envelopes from the table in the narthex. Thank you, Finance Board.

COMMUNION FREQUENCY UPDATE

The Elders have decided not to change the overall Communion frequency at Zion, with Communion being offered on the Second, Fourth and Fifth Sundays, along with Festivals such as Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, etc. Also, for the benefit of those in the congregation who desire more frequent Communion, we will be offering the Lord's Supper after the service on the First Sunday of each month, starting in January of 2024. On First Sundays, the service will progress through the Benediction and Postlude, and after the greetings in the narthex, those who desire Communion may either remain in the Sanctuary or return to the Sanctuary to receive the Lord's Supper.

MATTHEW CLAYTON INVOLVEMENT IN SERVICES

Matthew Clayton is now in his third year of Pre-Seminary studies at Concordia University in Chicago. In this capacity, he is regularly assisting with leading worship and distributing the Lord's Supper as part of the chapel services on campus at CUC. He is also taking theology classes and studying Greek and Hebrew. In order to give Matthew additional experiences in preparation for serving as a pastor, the Elders at Zion have approved having Matthew Clayton assist at Zion when he is on break. This may include teaching Adult Bible Class and assisting with services throughout the Christmas season. His involvement in the services will include reading the Scripture readings and helping distribute Communion, similar to what he has been doing during services at Concordia University, Chicago.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lector: Matthew Clayton
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Abigail Clayton
Elder of the Month: Jeff Fick

THOSE WHO SERVE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lector: Matthew Clayton
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Abigail Clayton
Elder of the Month: Jeff Fick

THOSE WHO SERVE CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lector: Matthew Clayton
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton
Elder of the Month: Jeff Fick

THOSE WHO SERVE CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton
Lector: Matthew Clayton
Organist: Nancy Peterson
Sound Tech: Nathaniel Clayton
Acolytes: Isaiah Clayton, William Huth, & Ryan Hinton (crucifer)
Altar Guild: Lita Timmerman
Elder of the Month: Jeff Fick

THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION

Wed.	Choir Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Third Advent Midweek Service	7:00 PM
	Hand Chime Rehearsal	8:00 PM
Thurs.	Trustees Meeting	7:00 PM
Fri.	Senior Meal Delivery	10:30 AM
Sun.	No Confirmation Class	
	Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Sunday School & Youth Bible Class	8:45 AM
	Worship DS III w/communion	10:00 AM
	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
	Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols	6:00 PM
Mon.	<i>Christmas Day</i>	
	Worship Hymn Setting Divine Service w/communion	10:00 AM