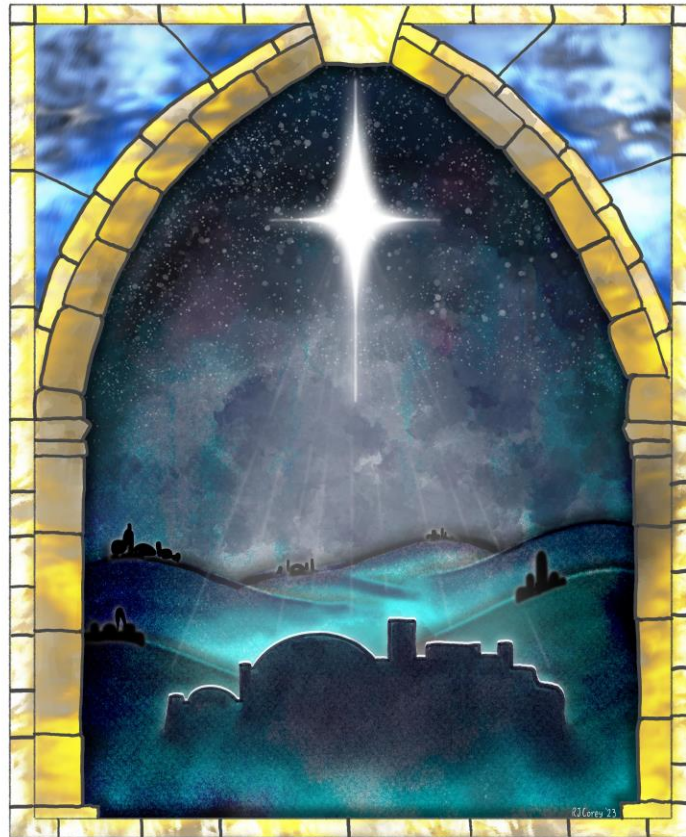


**Zion Lutheran Church**  
**Mascoutah, Illinois**  
**December 25, 2023**  
*Christmas Morning*



*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 morning 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**

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**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](mailto:ChurchOffice@ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Pastor Clayton email: [Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org](mailto:Pastor@ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Web site: [www.ZionMascoutah.org](http://www.ZionMascoutah.org)**  
**Find us at [@ZionMascoutah](https://www.facebook.com/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.

## Prayer to Begin Worship

Eternal Father, whose Christmas presence is the best of all gifts, for the quiet Word of Bethlehem, for the loving Word in ministry, for the mighty Word of Calvary, for the affirming Word of Easter and for the quiet Word that fills us and causes us to glorify and praise You this day of celebration, we thank You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever.

# DIVINE SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

## LSB p. 184

## Confession and Absolution

Prelude

Canon in D

Johann Pachelbel

*Stand*

*Many Lutheran Churches use a Processional Cross to begin and end festival services. When a Processional Cross is carried in to lead a procession, the congregation stands.*

Processional Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

LSB 379

**1 O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!**  
**O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him**  
**Born the king of angels: Refrain**

**ref O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,**  
**O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

**2 Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,**  
**Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes; Son of the Father**  
**Now in flesh appearing! Refrain**

**3 Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,**  
**Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God**  
**In the highest: Refrain**

**4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;**  
**Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father**  
**Now in flesh appearing! Refrain**

Public domain

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

Invocation

LSB 184

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession with Absolution

LSB 184

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Ps. 93:1–2, 5; antiphon: Is. 9:2a, 6a, c*

- P** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.  
**C** **To us a Child is born.**
- P** His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
**C** **Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**
- P** The LORD reigns; He is robed in majesty;  
**C** **the LORD is robed; He has put on strength as His belt.**
- P** Yes, the world is established;  
**C** **it shall never be moved.**
- P** Your throne is established from of old;  
**C** **You are from everlasting.**
- P** Your decrees are very trustworthy;  
**C** **holiness befits Your house, O LORD, forevermore.**
- 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.**
- P** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.  
**C** **To us a Child is born.**
- P** His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
**C** **Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

## Kyrie

*(sung to the tune "From Heav'n Above", LSB 358)*

**Have mercy on Your people, Lord. Have mercy on us, Christ, our King.  
Renew us by Your mercy, Lord; Accept the prayers we now do bring.**

## Gloria in Excelsis Hymn "Angels We Have Heard On High"

LSB 368



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-3) and Music: Public domain Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray. Most merciful God, You gave Your eternal Word to become incarnate of the pure Virgin. Grant Your people grace to put away fleshly lusts, that they may be ready for Your visitation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Micah 5:2-5a*

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for Me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore He shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of His brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And He shall stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God. And they shall dwell secure, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth. And He shall be their peace.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Hand Chime Choir Five Renaissance Christmas Hymns and Carols David Kellermeyer

## Epistle

*Titus 3:4-7*

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:1-20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this Child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

*Sit*

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

*LSB 361*

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.

*Hymn continues on the next page.*

- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Public domain

## Sermon

## The City of David

### Creed

*(sung to the tune of "Away in a Manger", LSB 364)*

In God we believe, the Creator whose pow'r In mercy has brought us for worship this hour.  
He graciously grants us our years and our days And blesses with kindness our work and our ways.

In Jesus, the Savior, our hope is secured. True God and true man once the cross He endured  
To grant our lives wholeness, forgiveness of sin. With hearts freed from guilt, we know true peace within.

God's Spirit at work in our lives we confess; With power and truth the church now He does bless.  
As saints, God's forgiven, one day we shall then Be living in glory forever. Amen.

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

**P** Praise, honor, and glory to You, O Lord our God.

**C** With angels and archangels we magnify Your name: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

**P** We adore Your divine goodness and praise You for sending deliverance to Zion and for including us in the fulfillment of Your promises.

**C** Even though we have no merit or worthiness within us, You have once again this Christmas assured us of Your love.

**P** Instead of justly punishing us, You have sent us salvation in the birth of Your Son.

**C** In spite of our many transgressions You have made salvation possible in this gift of mercy.

**P** For rejoicing more in earthbound gifts than in Your heaven-sent gift, forgive us, O Lord.

**C** For telling others more about earthly treasures than about the heavenly Word made flesh, forgive us, O Lord.

**P** Accept our thanks for the eternal gift conceived out of Your love for the world.

**C** Accept our thanks, O Lord, for bringing the knowledge of this divine truth to us.

**P** Bless, O Lord, the musicians, singers, and messengers who help us rejoice in Your Son's birth.

**C** Bless the hope of this Good News in the hearts of those who hear it.

**P** Bless, O Lord, the spread of the Christmas message throughout the world.

**C** May these glad tidings bring hope to the discouraged and peace to the troubled.

**P** May the lonely see in the Christmas message the assurance of Your presence.

### WE GO TO THE LORD IN PRAYER FOR

† All military personnel who are serving their country far from home this Christmas.

† All who travel during the Christmas season.

† The eyes to see the dignity of God's love in the lowly and the humble.

**P** May the peace of Christmas fill our nation and the nations of the world.

**C** This we ask in the name of our Savior, Christ, the Lord. Amen.

*Sit*

## 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.]

Special Offering Music

Christmas Chimings  
(Hand Chime Choir)


arr. Edwards

Stand

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

## Proper Preface (Full)

**P** 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. 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

(sung to the tune of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel", LSB 357)

**O holy, holy, holy Lord, the God of heav'nly hosts adored,  
Both heav'n and earth Your glory show. Hosanna sing unto the Lord.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**P** 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.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the  
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

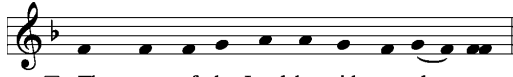
## The Words of Our Lord

**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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  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 al - ways.



**A** - men.

## Agnus Dei

(sung to the tune of “Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming”, LSB 359)

**O Lamb of God, our Savior, our sins You take away.  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, our sins You take away.  
Have mercy, Lord, we pray, and grant us peace from heaven,  
Grant peace to all we pray.**

*Sit*

## Distribution

*During the Distribution, the camera will be focused on the cross at the front of Zion to allow for privacy for those who commune.*

*Zion Lutheran practices the policy of close communion, communing only those who share our common Biblical view of the Lord's Supper. If you are not a confirmed LCMS Lutheran, please confer with the pastor before communing.*

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

### Once in Royal David's City

LSB 376

- 1** Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2** He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3** For He is our childhood's pattern, Day by day like us He grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless, Tears and smiles like us He knew;  
And He feels for all our sadness, And He shares in all our gladness.



- 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heav'n above;  
And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.**
- 5 Not in that poor, lowly stable With the oxen standing by  
Shall we see Him, but in heaven, Set at God's right hand on high.  
Then like stars His children, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!**

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**Hymn** **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** *LSB 393*

- 1 Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall; Oxen lowing,  
Little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging,  
Angels singing, Bells are ringing, Tidings bringing:  
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!**
- 2 Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new Saw the glory,  
Heard the story, Tidings of a Gospel true. Thus rejoicing,  
Free from sorrow, Praises voicing, Greet the morrow:  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!**

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**Hymn** **Let All Together Praise Our God** *LSB 389*

- 1 Let all together praise our God Before His glorious throne;  
Today He opens heav'n again To give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.**
- 2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne, Is born an infant small,  
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall, Lies in a humble stall.**
- 3 Within an earthborn form He hides His all-creating light;  
To serve us all He humbly cloaks The splendor of His might, The splendor of His might.**
- 4 He undertakes a great exchange, Puts on our human frame,  
And in return gives us His realm, His glory, and His name, His glory, and His name.**
- 5 He is a servant, I a lord: How great a mystery! How strong the tender Christ Child's love!  
No truer friend than He, No truer friend than He.**
- 6 He is the key and He the door To blessèd paradise; The angel bars the way no more.  
To God our praises rise, To God our praises rise.**

*Stand*

- 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus, we adore  
And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore; We praise You evermore.**

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001344 Text (st. 2): Public domain

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

### The Dismissal

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{✠}$  in peace.
- C** Amen.

### Nunc Dimittis

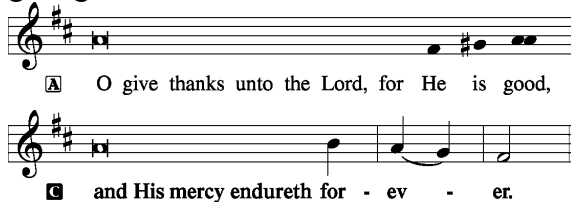
*(sung to the tune of "What Child Is This", LSB 370)*

**O Lord, now let Your servant go, Your gracious promise keeping.  
My eyes have seen salvation here, my heart for joy is leaping.  
This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**All thanks and praise to You, O Lord, O Light for all the living;  
For Jew and Gentile, one and all, Yourself for us are giving.  
This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

### Thanksgiving

*LSB 200*



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

### Collect

*LSB 201*

- P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

### Salutation and Benedicamus

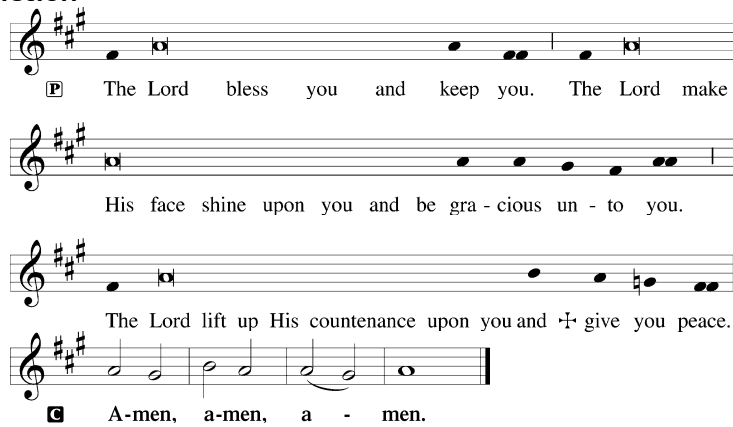
*LSB 201*



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**A** Bless we the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 202



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make  
His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.  
**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

*Remain Standing*

## Recessional Hymn

## Joy to the World

LSB 387

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.**
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.**

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*Sit*

## Postlude

## Variations on 'In Dulci Jubilo'

Dénis Bédard

### Acknowledgments

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## **LIFE AND LIVING ITEMS AT ZION**



### **THANKS TO ROBERT COREY FOR THE COVER ARTWORK**

The bulletin cover for this morning was designed by Robert Corey. The theme for the service this morning is "O Little Town of Bethlehem," based on various Old Testament prophecies mentioning Bethlehem, fulfilled in Jesus' birth--reminding us that God is faithful and He keeps His promises. Robert has shared an image of Bethlehem, surrounded by a stained-glass window frame. Thanks to Robert for this beautiful depiction of the "Little Town of Bethlehem!"

### **THANKS TO OUR MUSICIANS**

Thank you to our musicians for this morning. Rosemary Peterson and Abigail Clayton, violin; Gloria Peterson, viola; Bjorn Peterson and Cecily Peterson, cello; Josh Peterson and Leif Peterson, trumpet; Bob Eldridge, Daniel Johnson, Jon Robinson, trombones; and Nathaniel Clayton, baritone.

### **2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE**

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

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **EPIPHANY SUPPER AND DIVINE SERVICE AT TRINITY, MILLSTADT**

Join with our fellow Christians to celebrate our Lord on Epiphany! This holy day celebrates that Jesus is the Light of the world for all people! As the Gentile magi traveled from afar to worship the Christ, we join the saints

at Trinity in Millstadt on Saturday, January 6. There will be a preservice chili and soup potluck. Please bring a soup, chili, or side to share from 5-6:30. (Drinks will be provided.) The Divine Service will be at 7. Trinity is located at 503 E Washington St in Millstadt.

**WANTED: CHILDCARE ASSISTANCE AT LCMS INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSIONARY ORIENTATION**

LCMS Missionary Winter Orientation is coming up at the International Center in St. Louis, Missouri and God has blessed us with a number of new missionary families! While the parents receive their orientation to prepare them for life as an LCMS Missionary, an age-appropriate orientation for the children is critical to a successful deployment. The LCMS International Center is looking for qualified individuals to serve our missionary families in the following capacities: Activity Coordinator, Day Care Lead Teacher, Day Care Assistant, and Middle School and Elementary Assistant Teachers. The Missionary Orientation Dates are January 29 – February 2 and March 18-22 with future dates over the Summer. The hours are 7:30 – 5:30 (morning and afternoon shifts available). Pay is provided at an hourly rate. If you are interest in serving, please contact: Mark Wolfram, 314-556-7589, [Mark.wolfram@lcms.org](mailto:Mark.wolfram@lcms.org).

**THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

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

**THOSE WHO SERVE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31**

Proclaimer: Rev. Kirk Clayton  
Lector: Matthew Clayton  
Organist: Nancy Peterson  
Sound Tech: Gadge Corey  
Acolytes: Brady Twenhafel & Rylan Ganey  
Altar Guild: Becky Wachtman  
Elder of the Month: Jeff Fick

**THINGS WE ARE DOING AT ZION**

Mon.	<i>Christmas Day</i>	
	<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
	Worship Hymn Setting Divine Service w/communion	10:00 AM
Tues.	<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
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 IV w/communion	10:00 AM