

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

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*Rooted in Faith   \*   Growing in Spirit   \*   Reaching Out to Those in Need*  
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10:45 am Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2017

John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – The Candle of Peace Dickey Family

*Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other. (Psalm 85:8-10)*

L: Can you hear it?

C: What is it?

L: God's Word is coming.

C: We're listening. We're eager to hear.

L: A voice cries out and declares the Promise of Peace.

C: We stand in awe.

L: Things are going to even out in the world.

C: All people will embrace each other.

L: Today we light the candle of Peace.

All: Our peace comes from God.

GATHERING SONG "Prepare Ye The Way"

Prepare ye the Way, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.
Prepare ye the Way, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.

Prepare ye the Way, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.
Prepare ye the Way, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.

Yeshua, You reign on high, You reign on high.
Almighty God your love is like no other.
Yeshua, You reign on high, You reign on high.
Almighty God your love is like no other.

Prepare ye the Way, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.
Prepare ye the Way, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.

Prepare ye the Way, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.
Prepare ye the Way, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.

Yeshua, You reign on high, You reign on high.
Almighty God your love is like no other.
Yeshua, You reign on high, You reign on high.
Almighty God your love is like no other.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (please stand)

We prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and against our neighbor.

Silence for reflection.

God of all time,
**we confess that we have not prepared
for your merciful reign among us.**

We ignore our neighbors in need.

We fail in the labor of justice and peace.

In your mercy forgive us.

Grant us wisdom to welcome your light.

**Help us to seek the things that matter most
until our Lord comes again in glory. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Fear not, people of God, for the God of our ancestors remembers his promise:

In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. The lowly are lifted up and the hungry are filled with good things.

We rejoice in God our Savior!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God who made Night and Day, Your light shines in the darkness. Help us to know You are present with us, always. When the world seems hopeless, help us to reveal all the hope that is found in You. When the world seems to be without peace, help us to reveal the peace that is found in You. In the name of Christ, who is our shining light, our guiding hope, our Prince of Peace, we pray. **Amen** *(please be seated)*

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jessica Sauvage

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

Pew Bible OT p. 740

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;

for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

ALLELUIA *(please stand)*

“Hallelujah, Hear Our Praises”

From the mountains to the valley

Hear our praises rise to You.

From the heavens to the nations,

Hear the singing fill the air.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

From the mountains to the valley

Hear our praises rise to You.

From the heavens to the nations,

Hear the singing fill the air.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark chapter 1.
Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

Pew Bible NT p. 35

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ. *(please be seated)*

SERMON

Pastor Wayne Gallipo

SONG OF THE DAY

“Prepare The Way”

Prepare the way, make straight the path for Him.
Let the King of Glory enter in. Let the King of Glory enter in.
Who is this King of Glory.

The Lord strong and mighty; The Lord mighty to save.
The earth is full of His glory; Creation calls prepare the way.
His love endureth forever; His power is without an end;
His strength is victory's treasure
Let all who call his name prepare the way.

Prepare the way, make straight the path for Him
Let the King of Glory enter in; Let the King of Glory enter in;
Who is this King of Glory

The Lord strong and mighty; The Lord mighty to save.
The earth is full of His glory; Creation calls prepare the way.
His love endureth forever; His power is without an end;
His strength is victory's treasure
Let all who call his name prepare the way.

The Lord strong and mighty; The Lord mighty to save.
The earth is full of His glory; Creation calls prepare the way.
His love endureth forever; His power is without an end;
His strength is victory's treasure
Let all who call his name prepare the way.

APOSTLES' CREED *(please stand)*

**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.** *(please be seated)*

OFFERING

The children are welcome to come forward and place their offerings in the “For Children Everywhere” box.

OFFERING SONG

“What Have We to Offer?”

What have we to offer? What have we to share?
Coins from the coffer, hearts filled with care.
God will not falter; so let us dare
Lay it at the altar there.

What have we to offer? What have we to bring?
Love, ripe with laughter; hope that we can sing;
Dreams of what we're after; promises of when.
Lay it at the altar then.

What have we to offer? What have we to give?
Eyes that are wide open; lies that we won't live;
Truth that must be spoken; justice somehow.
Lay it at the altar now.

What have we to offer? What have we to give?
Lives we will live.

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand)*

Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love,
that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. **Amen**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION *(please be seated)*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUPPER

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward as directed by the ushers.
Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available; please indicate to the server by raising your hand.*

DISTRIBUTION SONG

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun
Oh, Lord have mercy on me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(please stand)*

God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share.
Send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BLESSING

May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you
and scatter the darkness from before your path.
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

“Days of Elijah”

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the Word of the Lord,
And these are the days of your servant Moses, righteousness being restored.
And though these are days of great trial, of famine and darkness and sword,
And we are a voice in the desert crying, prepare ye the Way of the Lord.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.
Lift your voice, in the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

These are the days of Ezekial, the dry bones becoming as flesh,
And these are the days of your servant David, rebuilding the temple of praise.
And these are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in the world.
And we are the laborers in the vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.
Lift your voice, in the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

There's no God like Jehovah
There's no God like Jehovah

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.
Lift your voice, in the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.
Lift your voice, in the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might,

and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

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that your glory may dwell in our land.**

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and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

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and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing

their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."