

Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Fourth Sunday in Advent
zionlutheranaberndeen.org



Prelude

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly/How Great Our Joy
O Come All Ye Faithful Medley

Bruce Greer

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Refsland Family

SONG

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW #270

- 1
- Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
- Refrain
- Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"
- 2
- Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*
- 3
- Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

LITANY OF GATHERING

We come in faith to see God among us.
Christ our Savior is born!

We come in hope to worship the Lord.
Christ our Savior is born!

We come in love to praise the God of love.
Christ our Savior is born!

Christ our Savior is born! Faith, hope, and love are renewed. Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth, peace to all.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

READING

John 1: 1-5, 9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

SONG

This Little Light of Mine

Sunday School kids

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

SONG

Away in a Manger

ELW #277

Children sing red words; congregation sings black words

- 1

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

SONG

What Can I Give to the King?

Sunday School kids

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ’s presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

Prayer response: God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this congregation possible. We encourage everyone to give. We encourage you to consider giving a gift online at zionlutheranaberdeen.org/giving or by mail as you are able. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online.



OFFERING SONG

In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW #294

- 1

In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;

snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

2 Heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heav'n and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign;
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty,
Jesus Christ.

3 What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—
give my heart.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

LITANY

Each of us is broken by sin and less than God has created us to be, but this does not disqualify us from being touched by God and serving God in any capacity, large or small, broken as we are.

God uses broken things. It takes broken clouds to give rain, broken ground to give grain, broken grain to give bread, broken bread to give strength.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of The Lord's Supper bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's Table.

(Candles are distributed to congregation)

COMMUNION SONG	<i>Shepherd's Song</i> <i>What Feast of Love</i>	Chase Hawkinson ELW #487
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1 What feast of love is offered here,
 what banquet come from heaven?
 What food of everlasting life,
 what gracious gift is given?
 This, this is Christ the king,
 the bread come down from heaven.
 Oh, taste and see and sing!
 How sweet the manna given!

2 What light of truth is offered here,
 what covenant from heaven?
 What hope of everlasting life,
 what wondrous word is given?
 This, this is Christ the king,
 the sun come down from heaven.
 Oh, see and hear and sing!
 The Word of God is given!

3 What wine of love is offered here,
 what crimson drink from heaven?
 What stream of everlasting life,
 what precious blood is given?
 This, this is Christ the king,
 the sweetest wine of heaven.
 Oh, taste and see and sing!
 The Son of God is given!

BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:
Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE READING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

- 1

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

BENEDICTION

The Light of the World has come!
Christ our Savior is born!

The faithful have come to adore Christ the Lord!
Christ our Savior is born!

Now go out with joy in your hearts and share the Light of the World everywhere you go.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

- 1

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. Refrain
- 2

The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain
- 3

Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain