

Zion Lutheran Church

Oldwick, New Jersey



Christmas Day

Communion Worship Service

December 25, 2022

11:00 a.m.

Joy to the World!

From near or far, we are glad to have you join our celebration of Jesus' birth. May God's grace bless you now and throughout the coming year.

Visitors please sign the guest register in the narthex.

Please remember to turn off your cell phones.

We invite you to continue celebrating Christ with us throughout the coming year.

AN INVITATION TO WORSHIP TOGETHER

New Year's Day

January 1

11:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion

Baptism of Our Lord

January 8

8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Services of Holy Communion

Sunday School

9:45 am at the Christian Education Building (CEB)

(Resumes on January 8)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

Please stand, as you are able.

ENTRANCE HYMN “*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*” ELW 288

DIALOGUE

Who are these angels who come to earth,
bearing the news of the Christ child’s birth?

Who are these shepherds who run to see,
and worship the babe on bended knee?

Who is this child, so small, so slight,
of whom the angels sang that night?

Who is this king, a manger his throne,
who humbles himself to make us his own?

Who is this God who sends a Son
into our midst, the promised one?

GREETING AND PRAYER

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God sent from heaven above, be with you all.

And also with you.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Who Are These Angels Who Come to Earth?

LESSON

Luke 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Glory to God in highest heaven,
who unto us the Son is given.

CAROL

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

ELW 275

Who Are These Shepherds Who Run to See?

LESSON

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered

He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Glory to God in highest heaven,
who unto us the Son is given.

CAROL

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

ELW 272

Who Is This God, Who Sends a Son?

Please stand, as you are able.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Glory to God in highest heaven,
who unto us the Son is given.

CAROL

"Love Has Come"

ELW 292

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Christmas Medley"
Janet Hornich, bell tree

Please stand, as you are able.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

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.**

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Zion welcomes all who celebrate the presence of Christ to the Lord's Table for Holy Communion. You will receive a piece of bread (wafer) in your hand. Please dip the bread into the cup of wine (silver chalice) or grape juice (gold chalice). Please tell the pastor if you would like a gluten-free wafer. Those not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to you in the pew.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Please stand, as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, ✝ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *"Go Tell It On the Mountain"* ELW 290

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Christmas Poinsettias Given By

David & Elizabeth Blackwood

In memory of Vera Vorwick and Ruth & Hugh Blackwood

Lou DiCriscio & Nova Ahrens

In memory of Filomena DiCriscio and Angela Bellarmino

Bill & Eleanor Kover

In thanksgiving for Marianna & Frank Evanouskas, June & Phil Calavetta, and Marlene & Bob Kover. In memory of Helen & Steve Kover, Mary & Charley Evanouskas, and Anne & Sam Faust

Tom Kriegsmann

In memory of Sis & Genie Conran

The Lanka Family

In memory of loved ones

John & Sandy Matsen

In memory of loved ones

Rebecca Melick & Josh Bryan

In memory of loved ones



John & Wendy Minerowicz

In thanksgiving for our children & grandchildren

Marjorie Mitchell

Ron & Joanne Rupp

In memory of dear friends and loved ones

John & Sue Swanson

In memory of Rollin & Elvira Swanson, and Jean & Paul Herrmann

Leah & David Wintemute

In thanksgiving for grandchildren, nieces, and nephews Harper, Carson, Chloe, Nate, Libby & Connor

In loving memory of parents and grandparents Ray H. & Lysod J. Kunkel

In loving memory of brother-in-law and sister J. Staats & Louise K. Brokaw



Connecting People with God's Grace

Pastor

Pastor Kat Steinly

Director of Music

Rodney A. Briscoe