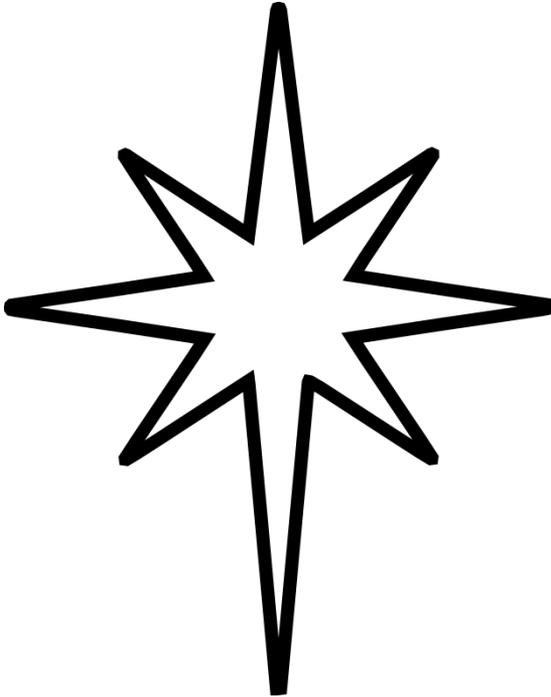


# **Zion Lutheran Church**

Oldwick, New Jersey



## **Season after Epiphany**

Communion Worship Service

# WELCOME

We are pleased you are worshipping with us today. As a Lutheran congregation, we are liturgical, which means we follow an order of worship which is found in the booklet in the pews. The weekly bulletin contains the lessons, gospel and hymn numbers. The hymns are located in the red hymnal. Children's activity bulletins are available. Please let an usher know if you would like one. We hope you find our worship service meaningful.

Zion is a friendly, active and generous congregation.

- We support each other ... social activities, meals, rides, visits and prayer.
- We support our community ... housing the homeless, feeding the hungry locally as well as around the world, providing camp scholarships to needy children, and providing access to medication to those in need.
- We support the larger Lutheran church ... tithing (10% of our budget) to contribute toward the millions of dollars targeting world hunger, disaster relief, and the effort to end malaria. Through Lutheran Social Services, we touch 1 in every 50 Americans each year.

It is good to be gathered as God's people. If you would like more information about Zion or if you are interested in becoming a member of the Zion family, please talk to Pastor Kat.

## WORSHIPING IN THE SEASON AFTER EPIPHANY

The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In the book of Isaiah, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

# CELEBRATING CHILDREN AT ZION

## **TO THE PARENTS OF OUR YOUNG CHILDREN, MAY WE SUGGEST:**

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. We claim the noise and activity of children as a sign of a healthy church. Children will always be welcome here!
- Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.
- Quietly explain the part of the service and the actions of the pastor, ushers, choir, etc.
- Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.
- If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

## **TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH**

- The presence of children is a gift to the church, and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing.
- Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

# GATHERING

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

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## ENTRANCE HYMN

*See weekly bulletin*

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



*Refrain*

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



*Refrain*

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

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

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### FIRST READING

*See weekly bulletin*

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### GOSPEL

*See weekly bulletin*

The holy gospel according to ...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## **SERMON**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*See weekly bulletin*

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

## **PEACE**

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

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace,  
and may say, "Peace be with you."  
Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. We magnify and adore you, through Jesus our Savior,

**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 ...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed 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**

Come and taste the joy of God!

### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*Zion welcomes all who celebrate the presence of Christ to the Lord's Table for Holy Communion (8:30 Continuous Communion, 11:00 Table Communion). An usher will direct you forward for 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 who are not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing. 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**

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **SENDING**

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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### **BLESSING**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod, + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** (11 a.m.)

*See weekly bulletin*

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**



*Connecting People with God's Grace*

**Pastor**

The Rev. Katherine Steinly

**Director of Music**

Rodney A. Briscoe