Zoar Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Responding in Service to God's Love"



Second Sunday of Advent, December 7, 2025

Welcome to Zoar Lutheran Church!

We're glad you're here to worship with us and pray that your spirit will be refreshed and transformed by the abundant grace of our God.

Zoar seeks to follow Jesus's example of inclusion by welcoming and affirming all, including all whom the world attempts to separate, divide, or isolate. We are committed to fostering social justice and racial equality.

The Zoar community is committed to the ongoing work of welcoming all ages, races and ethnicities, physical and mental abilities, marital, economic, and legal statuses, sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions, as well as all theological perspectives.

We celebrate Holy Communion in worship each week, and all who desire a deeper relationship with the God revealed in Jesus Christ are welcome to partake. This is Christ's table – not our table – and so, we follow Jesus in welcoming all people to the table.

The "Creative Corner" and children's worship bulletins are available for our younger friends.

We also offer Children's Time during worship.

If you have a special prayer request or would like to speak with our Pastor in private later this week, forms are available from an usher.

Hearing devices are available at the AV booth at the back of the sanctuary. Feel free to stand at the rail for Holy Communion if kneeling is uncomfortable, or let an usher know and we can bring Communion to you.

We invite you to join us in worship, community, fellowship, and ministry – all aspects of congregational life and leadership. Please join us after the worship service for fellowship.

May you find Zoar* to be your "little place of refuge." You are welcome here.

(* The name "Zoar" is found in Genesis 19. Zoar is the small town where Lot and his family take refuge when Sodom and Gomorrah are about to be destroyed. "Zoar" means "small" in Hebrew, and since Zoar was a place of refuge, our congregation aspires to be a "little place of refuge.")

Welcome / Announcements

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Gathering Hymn

ADVENT Comfort, Comfort Now My People 256 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - the her-ald's voice ple; tell of peace!" So says our God. the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near, Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load. to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them! Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! For the glo - ry of the Lord Now pre - pare for God a way. now on earth is shed a - broad, o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er. Tell them that their war is Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor. and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: Trente quatre pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551

FREU DICH SEHR 87877788 L: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way for the kingdom of heaven is near.

Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us, for he is our light and our salvation.

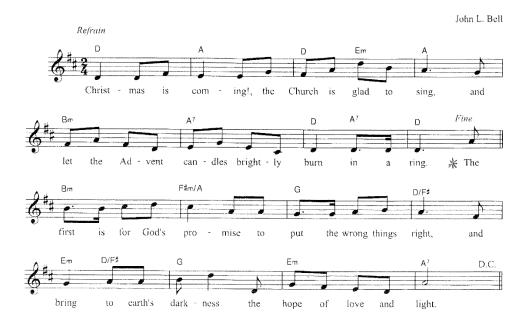
Blessed be God forever.

C: Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

(Light two candles. During the candlelighting, we'll sing the first two verses.)

Christmas Is Coming



- * 2 The second for the prophets, who said that Christ would come with good news for many and angry words for some.
 - 3 The third is for the Baptist, who cried, 'Prepare the way. Be ready for Jesus today and every day.'
 - 4 The fourth is for the Virgin, who mothered God's own Son and sang how God's justice was meant for everyone.

5 At last we light the candle kept new for Christmas day. This shines bright for Jesus new-born, and here to stay.

Christ is among us.
The candles in the ring
Remind us that our Saviour
Will light up everything.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism for Truitt Robert Tye parents: Jordan and Emma Tye baptismal sponsors: Peyton Jackson

Presentation

The presiding minister addresses the parents and baptismal sponsors

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word of God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ.

Response [by the parent and baptismal sponsors]:

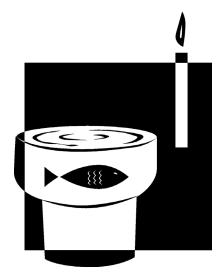
We present Truitt Robert Tye for baptism.

- P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Truitt baptized into Christ?
- **R:** We do.
- P: Jordan and Emma, as you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:
 - To live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

 Do you promise to help Truitt grow in the Christian faith and life?
- **R:** We do.
- P: Peyton, as Truitt's baptismal sponsor, do you promise to nurture him in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?
- R: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the congregation:

- P: People of God, do you promise to support Truitt and his parents and pray for them in their new life in Christ?
- C: We do.



Profession of faith

The presiding minister addresses the parent and baptismal sponsors:

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

R: We renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

R: We renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

R: We renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the congregation:

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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

Thanksgiving at the Font

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit brooded over the waters and you created the world by your Word, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through water you led your people Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you delivered us from the power of sin and death and set us free to live in you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this water and upon Truitt who is washed in it, that they may be given new life.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Baptism

P: Truitt Robert Tye, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

After the child has been baptized, the pastor invites the congregation to respond.

- P: And let the people of God say:
- C: Amen! You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.
- P: Let us pray.

 We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, wash them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Truitt with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.
- C: Amen.

Signing With the Cross

- P: Truitt, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross + of Christ forever.
- C: Amen.

(A lighted candle is given to the parents.)

- IP: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life."
- IP: Let us welcome the newly baptized.
- C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeemed word to all the world.



Baptized and Set Free

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Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956 Music: Cathy Skogen-Soldner Text and music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress BAPTIZED AND SET FREE 74756685

The Greeting

- IP: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

Kyrie

Mel Kubik-Bondy



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Salutation

IP: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

IP: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
- ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear,

⁴ 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.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ 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.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy

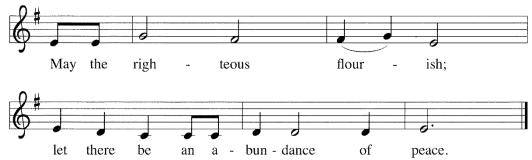
on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ 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.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 72 (R v7)



- ¹ Give the king your jus- [|] tice, O God, and your righteousness to [|] the king's son;
- ² that he may rule your | people righteously and the | poor with justice;
- ³ that the mountains may bring prosperity ¹ to the people, and the ¹ hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people, rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor. R
- ⁵ May he live as long as the sun and ¹ moon endure, from one generation ¹ to another.
- ⁶ Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field, like showers that wa- | ter the earth.
- ⁷ In his time may the [|] righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall [|] be no more.
- ¹⁸ Blessed are you, Lord God, the [|] God of Israel; you alone do [|] wondrous deeds!
- ¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious [|] name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- [|] men. Amen. **R**

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name";

¹⁰ and again he says,

"Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people";

¹¹ and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

¹² and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,

the one who rises to rule the gentiles;

in him the gentiles shall hope."

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God



Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Acclamation

Mel Kubik-Bondy



The Gospel Reading

- P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the third chapter.
- C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.' "

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Please be seated.

Children's Time

The Message Pastor Michelle Manicke

ADVENT On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry 249 On Bap Jor - dan's bank the tist's cry an nounc - es Then cleansed be life from sin; straight the ev 'ry make We hail you Sav ior, Lord, our our ref - uge 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make whose praise to you, ter nal Son, ad vent that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark en, way for God with - in, and let us all our and re - ward; with - out our great your grace we rise fall let face to no more; oh, your up has free our dom won, whom with the Fa ther tid - ings of King he brings glad of kings! there. hearts pre-pare for Christ to come and ter flow'rs that with waste a - way like er and de - cay. us shine fill on and the world with love di - vine. we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir er - more.

The Prayers of the People

(The petitioner will say, "God of grace"; the congregation will respond with "hear our prayer.")

Sharing the Peace of Christ

P: On the count of 3, let's all say together, "The peace of Christ be with you always!"

Please be seated.

The Offering

Please take a moment of silent prayer to consider the many needs and to give thanks for the blessings you've received from God. Ask God to guide you in discerning how you can share some of the gifts God has entrusted to you. (Perhaps you'll feel moved to call someone, to write a card, or to make an extra donation in support of ministries making a difference in our wider community, so that they can continue to bring light and life to our neighbors in need.)

The Offertory



The Offering Hymn



Text: Psalm 118:26 Music: Nathan Houge, b. 1977 Music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress BLESSED IS THE ONE 10 8 10 8

The Blessing of the Quilts

Let us pray together:

C: Gracious God,

Source of all blessing and of every good gift, we give you thanks for the work of Zoar's Sewing Circle and Knotty Loopers who have lovingly created these beautiful quilts, afghans, and hats, and who've assembled so many health kits.

Bless the members of our Sewing Circle and Knotty Loopers, and bless these gifts as they travel to their new homes.

May they provide warmth and comfort to your dear children who receive them for many days to come.

This we ask through the One who came to reveal your love and to heal this broken and troubled world; Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offering Prayer

A: Nourishing God,

you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

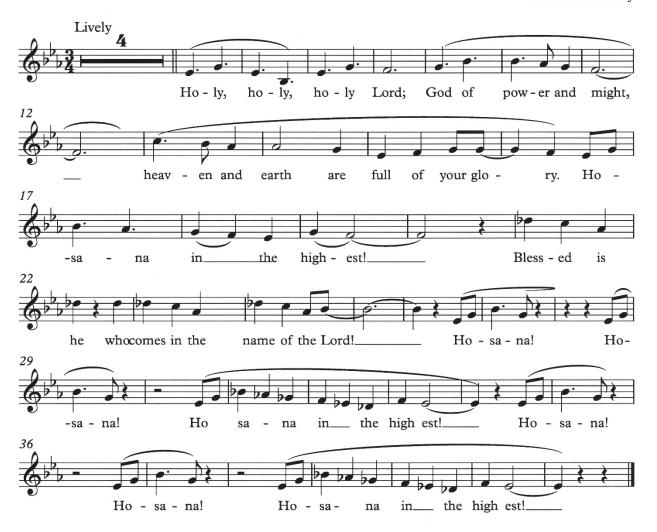
C: It is right to give God thanks and praise

The Proper Preface

P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, whose coming the prophets and John the Baptist announced with great joy, and so with the church on earth, all creation, and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy

Mel Kubik-Bondy



Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

- IP: Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
 our Salvation and our Hope,
 we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
 When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
 you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
- P: At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

IP: Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: Amen

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The 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.

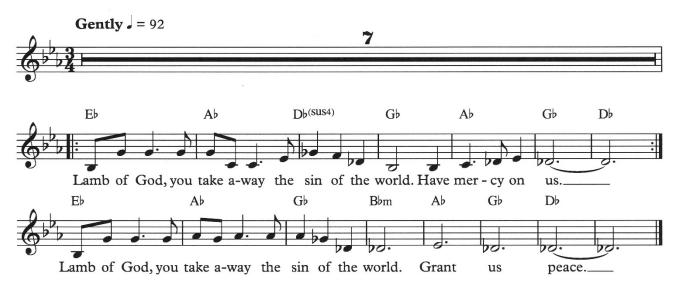
Invitation to Communion

P: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God

Mel Kubik-Bondy



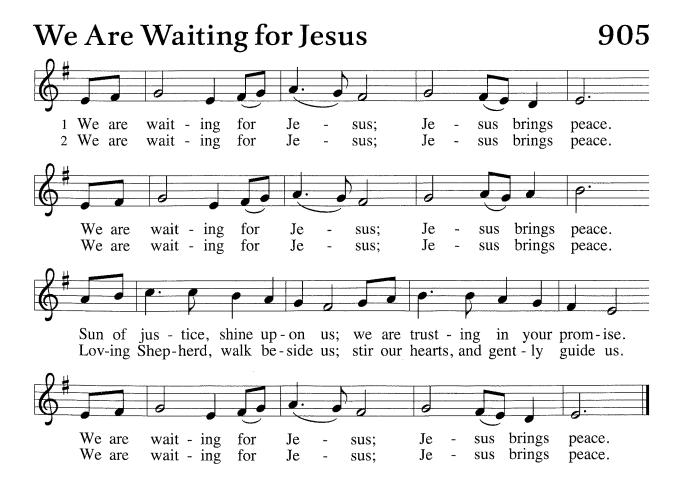
The Distribution

Instructions for those communing online/in their homes:

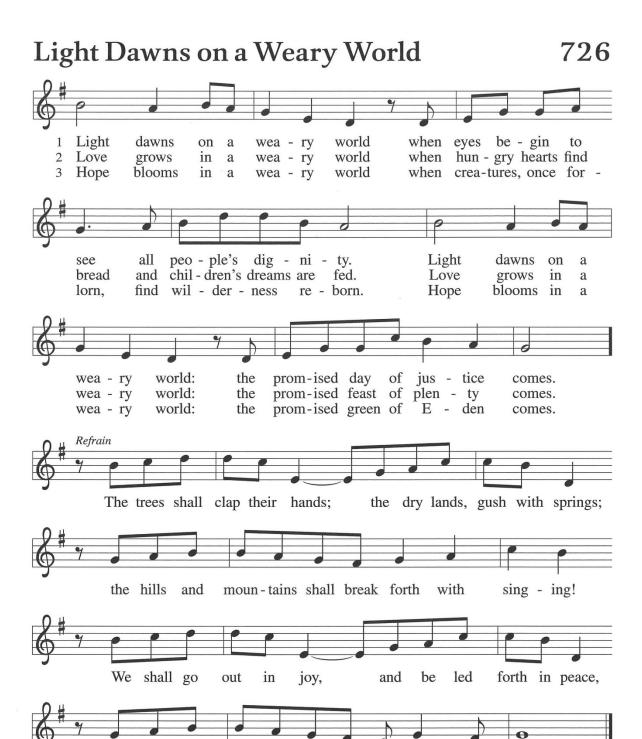
Please take a minute to wash your hands if you'll be touching the bread or cup and offering it to another person.

As you are offering bread to another, say these words: "The body of Christ, given for you." As you are offering the wine or grape juice, say these words: "The blood of Christ, shed for you."

Communion Hymns



Text: John Helgen, b. 1957 Music: John Helgen Text and music © 2013 Augsburg Fortress JESUS BRINGS PEACE 7 4 7 4 8 8 7 4



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Please stand, as you are able.

The Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen

Closing Prayer:

A: God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

The Sending Blessing

IP: May God who comes among us,
Father, ⅓ Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.

C: Amen.



Sending Hymn



Music: French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates

Arr. © 1999 Novello & Co. Ltd. London

87 98 87

The Dismissal

IP: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thank you to our Worship Servers			
Assisting Minister	Di Bernklau		
Communion Assistant	Renna Marcus		
Pianist	Mel Kubik		
Lector	Paul Rothi		
Song Leader	Worship Team		
Sunday School Teacher	Don Weaver		
Greeters	Janet Jeffries, Nancy Mohr		
Altar Care	Marie and Jerry Rothi		
Sound	Alden		
AV Technician	Anne Manicke		
Altar Flowers	ZLCW		

For those interested in giving electronically, you can scan the QR Codes below







General Fund



Building Fund

Looking AheadYou Can Also Find The Calendar at https://zoarlutheran.org/calendar

Date	Time	Activity	
Sunday: 12/7	9:15 – 10:15 am	Adult Forum: Kindness Room	
	9:15 – 10:15 am	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal – Speaking Parts: Sanctuary	
	10:30 – 11:30 am	Second Sunday of Advent Worship Service: Sanctuary	
	12: – 1 pm	Fellowship Time: Narthex	
	12 – 1:30 pm	Congregational Meeting: Sanctuary	
	1:30 – 3 pm	Confirmation: Kindness Room	
Monday: 12/8 Pastor's Day Off		Pastor's Day Off	
	11:30 am - 2 pm	Quilter's Lunch with Clackamas County: Narthex	
	7 – 8 pm	Property Leadership Team: Narthex	
Tuesday: 12/9	5 – 6:00 pm	Community Dinner: Narthex and Kitchen	
	7 – 8:30 pm	Church Council Meeting: Zoom	
	7 – 8 pm	Groupo La Frontera (Spanish language AA): Kindness Room	
Wednesday: 12/10		Music Ministries: Sanctuary	
	7 – 8 pm	Groupo La Frontera (Spanish language AA): Kindness Room	
Thursday: 12/11	10:30 – 11:30 am	Bible Study with Pastor Michelle	
	12 – 7:30 pm	Music Ministries: Sanctuary	
	1 – 2 pm	Youth and Education Leadership Team: NArthex	
	7 – 8:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study: Zoom	
Friday: 12/12	7 – 8 pm	Groupo La Frontera (Spanish language AA): Kindness Room	
Saturday: 12/13	9 – 12 pm	Furniture Ministry	
-	10 – 12 pm	Christmas Pagent Rehearsal: Sanctuary	
Sunday: 12/14	9 – 10:15 am	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal: Sanctuary	
	10:30 – 11:30 am	Third Sunday of Advent Christmas Pageant and	
	40.	Worship Service: Sanctuary	
	12: – 1 pm	Fellowship Time: Narthex	
	12:30 – 1:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal: Sanctuary	
	1:30 – 2:30 pm	Ordinary Men Rehearsal: Sanctuary	

Long-term Monthly Scheduled Activities:				
First Tuesday of every month	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Evangelism Team Mtg. – Zoom		
Monday prior to each Church Council Mtg.	7 - 8 pm	Property & Management - In person @ Zoar		
Second Tuesday of every month	7 - 8:30 pm	Church Council Mtg Zoom		
Second Thursday of every month	1 -2 pm	Youth & Education Mtg. – In person @ Zoar		
Third Wednesday of every month	7:30-8:30 pm	Technology Task Force: Zoom		
Fourth Tuesday of every month	7 - 8:30 pm	Executive Council Mtg Zoom		
Last Friday of every month (3 rd Fri in Nov & Dec)	9 – 10:30 am	Breakfast Group: Jarboe's Grill in Canby		