



ZION CHURCH

TRANSFORMED BY GRACE
POURED OUT FOR OTHERS

22 December 2024
Fourth Sunday of Advent

"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.

Revelation 22:12-14

WELCOME!

We're glad you're here! If you are a newcomer, visitor, or guest:

- ◆ Please take a **Zion coffee mug** from the welcome table in the foyer!
- ◆ **Nursery** is provided for children up to age 3 during Sunday school and both morning services.
- ◆ **Sunday School** classes for children, youth, and adults are available at the 10:00 education hour. (no classes today – Christmas program in the worship hall)
- ◆ **Children's Church** is available for children ages 3-5 in the 11:00 service. The children gather just before the sermon and return during the final hymn.
- ◆ **Busy Bags** for young children are hanging on racks at the back of the worship hall.
- ◆ Please explore the rest of your worship folder for opportunities to **connect** and **serve** at Zion. **We're glad you're here!**

WORSHIP AT ZION

The Zion worship service has a structure and sequence that reflects the way scripture shows how God meets his people. God has made himself known to the world in Jesus Christ, who is God the Son, who took on human flesh, bled and died for our sins, rose from the dead, ascended to the Father's right hand, intercedes for us now, and will come again to receive us at the end. The church assembles on the Lord's day to name the name of Jesus, which is above every name.

- We enter his courts with thanksgiving and praise
- We kneel before him in confession and repentance
- We stand and hear again the Gospel's promise of mercy and forgiveness
- We bring our tribute offerings to our King
- We hear the voice of God from scripture
- We eat at the table Jesus has provided for us
- We depart with his blessing and promise that He will be with us until he comes for us again.

THE MISSION OF ZION CHURCH

By God's grace Zion Church will be a Christ-centered ministry committed to worship God by proclaiming the truth of Scripture and relating to one another on the basis of the transforming power of the Gospel.

As God's people living in community, we will equip one another to pour out our lives for Christ at home, in the city, on the campus, across the Midwest, and to the ends of the earth. This vision rests upon the supernatural work of Christ who alone can build His church through the Spirit's work in our lives together.

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

Prelude

Christmas Choir — *Rejoice and Sing*

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candles – Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 – *David Houfek Family: David & Nicole, Grace, Esther, Lydia, Ivy, Naomi*

11:00 – *Michael Tewes Family: Michael & Shelby, Naomi, Evelyn*

ENTRANCE TO WORSHIP

† Call to Worship *Psalm 96:7-10*

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"

WORSHIP THROUGH CONFESSION AND PRAISE

† Come Into His Presence With Singing

Angels From the Realms of Glory (Trinity Hymnal 218)

All Praise to Thee Eternal Lord (Trinity Hymnal 219)

Away in a Manger (Trinity Hymnal 204)

Prayer of Praise and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Christmas Choir — *The Wexford Carol*

Preparation for Confession *James 1:19-22*

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Silent Confession of Sin

Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

† Declaration of Grace 1 Corinthians 1:8-9

He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

Song of Gratitude - *Jesus Paid It All* (refrain)

Giving Moment – *Gloria Patri*

WORSHIP THROUGH WORD AND SACRAMENT

In the 11:00 service, children ages 3-5 may be dismissed for Children's Church.

Children are always welcome in the main worship hall.

We also stream the service in the Hearth Room at the north end of the front hallway.

Preaching of the Word

Title: "Jesus Our Bright Morning Star"

Text: Revelation 22

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

A Cappella – Man of Sorrows (Trinity Hymnal 246)

*The communion trays have wine in the outside ring of wine-colored cups
and a juice option in the inner ring of clear cups.*

*All baptized Christians who are members in good standing with their home congregation
are welcome to join us at the Lord's table today.*

† Hymn of Celebration

Joy To The World! (Trinity Hymnal 195)

† Benediction

Organ Postlude



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Revelation 22

1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations...

12 "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." 14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. 15 Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. 16 "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." 17 The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price...

20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

"Jesus Our Bright Morning Star"
Revelation 22
Sermon Notes: 22 December 2024

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

218

They saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.
Matt. 2:11



1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2. Shep- herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch- ing o'er your flocks by night,
3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem- pla- tions, bright- er vi - sions beam a - far;
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend- ing, watch- ing long in hope and fear,
5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais- ing God the Fa - ther, Spir- it, Son;



- ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro- claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with man is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
• seek the great De - sire of na - tions; ye have seen his na - tal star:
sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One:



Come and wor- ship, come and wor- ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.



All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord

You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor. 2 Cor. 8:9

1. All praise to thee, e - ter - nal Lord, clothed in a
 2. Once did the skies be - fore thee bow; a vir - gin's
 3. A lit - tle child, thou art our guest, that wea - ry
 4. Thou com - est in the dark - some night to make us
 5. All this for us thy love hath done; by this to

garb of flesh and blood; choos - ing a man - ger
 arms con - tain thee now: an - gels who did in
 • ones in thee may rest; for - lorn and low - ly
 chil - dren of the light, to make us, in the
 thee our love is won: for this we tune our

for thy throne, while worlds on worlds are thine a - lone.
 thee re - joice now lis - ten for thine in - fant voice.
 • is thy birth, that we may rise to heav'n from earth.
 realms di - vine, like thine own an - gels round thee shine.
 cheer - ful lays, and shout our thanks in cease - less praise.

Away in a Manger

204

She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7

Unison F B \flat F

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay close by me for -

F

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
 Je - sus no cry - ing he makes; I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look
 ev - er, and love me, I pray; bless all the dear chil - dren in

B \flat F C 7 F B \flat C 7 F

down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky, and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
 thy ten - der care, and fit us for heav - en, to live with thee there.

Jesus Paid It All (refrain)

REFRAIN

Je - sus paid it all, all to him I owe;

sin had left a crim - son stain, he washed it white as snow.

The musical score is for the refrain of the hymn 'Jesus Paid It All'. It is written in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the first two lines of the refrain, and the second system contains the next two lines. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: D, G, D, D, G, D, A in the first system, and D, G, D, D7, G, E7, D/A, A7, D in the second system. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

Gloria Patri

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-

gin-ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

The musical score for 'Gloria Patri' is written in D minor (two flats) and common time (C). It consists of two systems, each with a treble staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

Man of Sorrows! What a Name

246

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.
Is. 53:3

1. Man of Sor - rows! what a name for the Son of God, who came
 2. Bear - ing shame and scoff - ing rude, in my place con - demned he stood,
 3. Guilt - y, vile, and help - less, we; spot - less Lamb of God was he;
 4. Lift - ed up was he to die, "It is fin - ished!" was his cry;
 5. When he comes, our glo - rious King, all his ran - somed home to bring,

ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim: Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!
 sealed my par - don with his blood: Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!
 • full a - tone - ment! can it be? Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!
 now in heav'n ex - alt - ed high: Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!
 then a - new this song we'll sing: Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior!

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Ps. 98:4

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heav'n and na - ture sing,

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Weekly Ways to Connect: zionpca.com/groups

Sundays, 7:45am: **Prayer in Library**

Sundays, 10:00am: **Education Hour**

Tuesdays, 9:30am: **Women's Bible Study** (resumes January 14)

Thursdays, 6:30am: **Men's Bible Study** (Luke – on holiday break)

Saturdays, 8:15am: **Foodnet Distribution** (*you can help!*)

It is December!

Sunday Dec. 22nd: Congregational business meeting at 10:00

Tuesday Dec. 24th: Christmas Eve candlelight service, 5:00pm

Sunday Dec. 29th: Pastor Keith's cookie retirement party, 10:30am

Ballot Today

Our congregational business meeting this morning has a ballot to re-elect officers who have been on sabbatical in 2024: Lee Grossman, elder; John Parish, deacon; Lee Dreyer, deacon. Members vote a simple Yes or No for each. The meeting will also include updates on our 2025 transition plans and pastoral search process.

Christmas Eve Offering: Geneva Relief Fund

As in years past, we will take a special offering at the Christmas Eve service for the Geneva Relief Fund, which provides financial assistance and support to PCA pastors, widows, and ministry workers in need. This year the Christmas Eve service is a 5:00pm.

One Service Next Sunday

Next Sunday, December 29th, is a holiday Sunday between Christmas and New Years. There will be only one service at 9:00am. The education classes will be on holiday break. But Pastor Keith's retirement cookie party is still on, after the service.

One Service January 5

Beginning in January, for the next months of transition, we will change to one, unified worship service at 9:00am. The education hour will begin at 10:15 for kids, 10:30 for adults.

Women's Bible Study: January 14

The Tuesday morning Bible study with Amy Handeland will resume in January using the book *Job, Trusting God When Suffering Comes* by Lydia Brownback. 9:30. Hearth Room.

Rochester L'abri: February 14-15

Zion will have a contingent again this year at the annual L'abri conference in Rochester, Minnesota. This year's theme: *Pilgrimage In Uncertain Times*. Share rides, share meals, sit together ... contact John Anderson. <https://www.rochesterlabriconferences.org/>.

Sunday Mornings: zionpca.com/visit

Corporate Public Worship in the Worship Hall. Streaming to zionpca.com/livestream, Facebook (@zionpca), and Youtube @ZionPCA

Welcome Anne Ramsey, Music Director

Search committees have met, job descriptions have been drafted (and revised), applications have been received, interviews have been conducted, and we are happy to announce that Anne Ramsey will join the Zion staff as Music Director in January.

Secure Dropoff

Put checks, cash, or other sensitive information in the new Secure Dropoff mail slot in the main office.

Nursery: zionpca.com/nursery

Nursery care is available during the worship service and the Education Hour. If you have any questions or would like to serve, please contact our nursery director **Kelsey Nyenhuis** at nursery@zionpca.com.

How to Give at Zion: zionpca.com/give

God provides all we have, and Christians return a portion of that in thanksgiving. You can put cash and checks in the **black box on the foyer table**. To give online, use this QR code, go to zionpca.com/give, or Venmo @Zion-Church-2.



Year-to-Date

Budget: \$742K

Giving: \$751K

Expenses: \$765

Christmas Poinsettias

John and Mary Ann Anderson

In Honor of Richard and Natalie Rieth (Mary Ann's parents)

In Honor of Reuben Anderson (John's dad)

Elizabeth Erlandson

In Memory of Doug Erlandson (Husband)

Dennis and Sara Mann

In Memory of Fred and Norma Mann (Dennis' parents)

Phyllis Finkner (Sara's Mom)

Reg Kuhn

In Honor of Joyce N. Kuhn (Mother)

Paul and Kristen Reiter

In Memory of David Wright (Brother, Uncle)

George and Taryne, and Chrissy Matzen

In Honor of "Big" George Matzen (Father, Husband)

and A.D. and Lois Metcalf (Taryne's Grandparents)

Debbie Schafer

In Honor of Shelley Lisle (Cousin)

Jeff and Heather Keele

In Memory of our family friend, Renee

Gayle and Nancy Hanshaw

In Memory of Donald and Jewel White (Nancy's parents)

In Honor of my fellow believers at Zion

Committed to God's Truth

We believe in a holy God who exists eternally in three persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

We believe the Bible is the written word of God, and we hold to it as our authority in all matters of faith and life.

We believe all people are sinners, justly deserving God's displeasure, and incapable of saving themselves.

We believe that Jesus Christ – God the Son who became man – lived a sinless life, died on the cross and rose again to accomplish our salvation. We receive this gracious gift through faith alone.

We believe the Holy Spirit gives Christians the daily strength and wisdom they need to walk according to His will and grow in holiness.

We believe that Jesus Christ will return to judge all mankind and to receive His people unto Himself.

For more explanation and resources go to zionpca.com/beliefs

Elders — session@zionpca.com

John Anderson, David Chambers, Keith Ghormley, Lee Grossman, Howard Huffman, Jon Jonson, Tim Kirk, Dennis Mann, Gary Young, Wayne Howlett (Emeritus), Jim Locklear (Emeritus)

Deacons — deacons@zionpca.com

Dwight Bender, Lee Dreyer, Jim Gage, Jeff Keele, Scott Nelson, John Parish, Monte Polivka, Pete Tompkins, Scott Weldon

Staff — office@zionpca.com

Rev. Tim Kirk	Interim Pastor
Rev. Keith Ghormley	Associate Pastor
Rev. David Chambers	Assistant Pastor
Jon Jonson	Finance Officer
Taryne Matzen	Church Administrator
Kyle Lindgren	Youth Director
Nicole Houfek	Children's Ministry Director
Kelsey Nyenhuis	Nursery Director
Anne Ramsey and Teresa Ghormley	Chief Musicians
Joseph Ghormley	Tech Specialist
Lauren Wismer, Jonathan Vusich	Organists



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