

December 24, 2023
Christmas Eve Worship Service

ENTRANCE HYMN

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God... in the highest: *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, We greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

CHRISTMAS DIALOG

Jesus Chris is the Light of the world!

He is the light no darkness can overcome.

At darkest night we gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

With the heavenly host we sing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven." In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and lives among us.

With the shepherd's, we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.

HYMN

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain

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

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

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

GREETING AND PRAYER

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray. (a brief silence) Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightest of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightest of his glory; through your holy son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Amen.

READING

Isaiah 9:2-7 - Randy Cizek

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgins womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

READING Titus 2:11-14 - Jim Fidler

HYMN O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how sill we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

READING Luke 2:1-7 - Ruth Reinoehl

HYMN Away in a Manger

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 in the hay.

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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.

READING Luke 2:8-20 - Brian Milek

HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o're the plains, and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

The Offering of our tithes, gifts and sacrifices is gathered for the mission of Christ's church, including the care of those in need.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

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PC = https://onrealm.org/ZionLutheranChurchNC/give/now

Smartphone = https://abundant.com/ZionLutheranChurch/MobileGiving



Let us enthusiastically pray our prayer of stewardship, Holy Lord,

I gladly return, for your work, a portion of your abundant provision to me. All that I have is yours alone, entrusted Lord, to my care. Amen.

HYMN What Child is This

What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh; come peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

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.

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution - Please look up, Pastor will be speaking these words

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

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.

Come, receive the grace Jesus has prepared for you.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Lord's Supper (Communion) at this congregation is practiced as an open table – all are welcome. Jesus said this is his body and blood given and shed for you; come receive the loving grace God provides for you.

Those who do not commune may come forward for a blessing, for all are loved by God. Children who commune at their home congregation are encouraged to commune here today too.

Gluten Free wafers available. Request at time of receiving communion.

Communion Music: Silent Night By Bill Wolaver

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

The Gospel of the Incarnation

John 1:1-14

From an altar candle the minister will light a large candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's gospel speaks. Assistants light their candles from the minister's candle and then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.

Wonderful Counselor, increase our joy as the church gathers on this holy night to sing of our dear Savior's birth. May the story of salvation live in the hearts of all who sing of its wonders. God of grace,

Hear or prayer.

Mighty God, you have broken the yoke of sin's burden though the birth of your Son. Comfort those whose burdens distract them from the deeper peace of this holy night and grant them a restful mind. God of peace,

Hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, uphold all who are in sorrow or need of your divine goodness and mercy. We remember with thanksgiving all who have died and who now rest in your peaceful light. God of love,

Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, bathe us always in the light of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN

Silent Night, Holy Night

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

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!

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.

May God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Candles are extinguished

HYMN Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Go in peace, Christ has come for you!

Thanks be to God!

Zion Lutheran Church 349 Lindy Lane Ave. NW North Canton, Ohio 44720 330-499-3909

Worship Services

Sunday Morning: 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Wednesday Evening: 7:00 p.m. Casual Worship

Service

*Services are streamed through Facebook

Office hours 9:00am to 3:00pm M-F Doors open at 9am

Statement of Purpose: Zion matters to the community by showing the love of Jesus Christ

