



*“I will cause a righteous
branch to spring forth for David;
and he shall execute justice and
righteousness in the land.”*

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 1, 2024

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D

Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

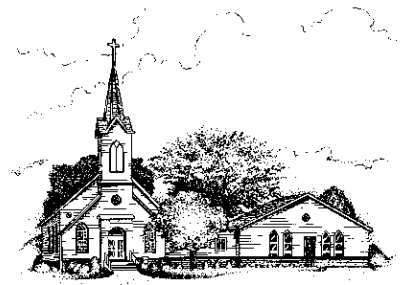
Members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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Welcome to God's House

It is easy to get so caught up in the imagery—a tiny newborn baby, lying in the straw-filled manger under a star-filled sky—that we forget the *why*.

Why did the Son of God come into our world and take on human flesh? So that he might die as the sacrifice for our sins. One Christmas carol puts it this way. “Neither crib nor cross refuses, all he suffers for your good to redeem you by his blood.”



Advent marks the start of a new Church Year. We begin at the end, watching Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, knowing full well that he would be killed before the end of the week. The events of Palm Sunday serve as a microcosm for all Jesus' work, proving the Son of God was willing to humble himself and endure anything for our salvation. That is precisely why Christ came. And a real Christmas requires remembering why Christ came.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn

Prepare the Royal Highway #302



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a -



near! Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a
King! Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread
King! Your King, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its
bove. His rule is peace and free - dom and



lev - el road ap - pear! Then greet the King of
gar - ments! Shout and sing! God's prom - ise will not
trib - ute too should bring. All lands, bow down be -
jus - tice, truth, and love. So let your praise be



glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
fore him! All na - tions, now a - dore him!
sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's Word!

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (EHV)

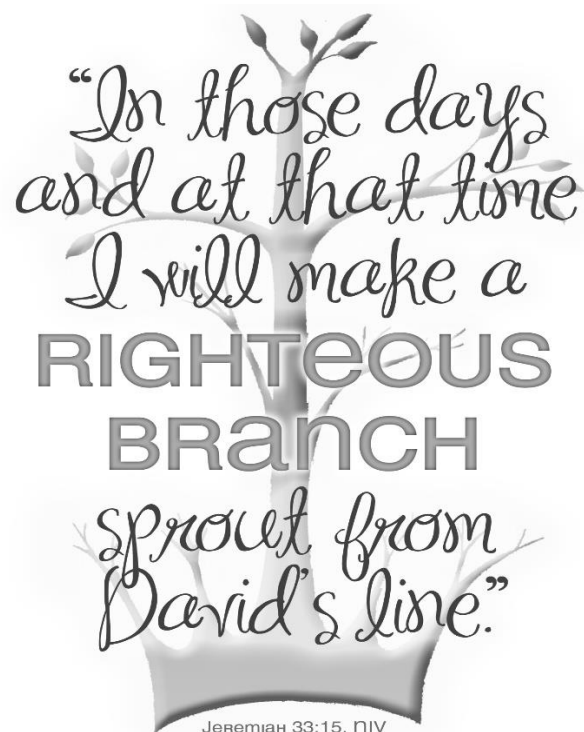
¹⁴ Listen, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the good promises that I have spoken to the house of Israel and concerning the house of Judah.

¹⁵ In those days and at that time,
I will cause a righteous Branch to grow up from David's line.
He will establish justice and righteousness on earth.

¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved,
and Jerusalem will dwell securely.
This is what she will be called:
The Lord Our Righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Psalm of the Day

To You, O LORD, I Lift My Soul - Psalm 25A

Refrain

To you, O LORD, I lift my soul; in
you I trust, O LORD my God.

In you, Lord my God, I / put my trust.

I trust in you; do not let me be / put to shame.

Show me your ways, Lord, teach me / your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my / Savior.

Remember, Lord, your great mer- / cy and love,

for they are / from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth and my re- / bellious ways;

according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, / are good. **Refrain**

Lord, forgive my iniquity, though / it is great.

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and af- / flicted.

Look on my affliction and / my distress

and take away / all my sins.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. **Refrain**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 22:20

Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."
Amen.

Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

²⁸ After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why

are you untying it?' say, "The Lord needs it."

³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

³⁴ They replied, "The Lord needs it."

³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

³⁸ "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

⁴⁰ "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

Savior of the Nations, Come #301

Savior of the nations, come; Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.

Not by human flesh and blood, by the Spirit of our God
was the Word of God made flesh, woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child of the virgin undefiled,
though by all the world disowned, yet to be in heav'n enthroned!

From the Father's throne he came and ascended to the same,
captive leading death and hell. High the song of triumph swell!

Praise to God the Father sing, praise to God the Son, our King,
praise to God the Spirit be ever and eternally.

Sermon

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Mighty Lord, faithful God, you have fulfilled your gracious promises and have sent your Son as the righteous Branch from the line of David.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Lift up our heads and prepare our hearts as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, our heavenly King.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the

highest!

Your Son's coming is nearer to us now than when we first believed. Make us shine like lights in this dark world as we live by faith. Empower us by your Spirit to witness to those around us in word and deed.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

We thank you for those authorities, parents in the home, pastors, teachers and elders in the church who watch over our souls, and those in the government who have the responsibility of watching over the safety of our bodies. Keep them faithful in their tasks, bless them, and make them a blessing to us.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

We pray for those who are weighed down with griefs and the anxieties of life, who wait for relief of sicknesses of body or mind, [especially...]. Heal, restore and relieve all pain and sorrow as it fits your gracious will and plan.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayers and special intercessions may follow

Lord, purify our consciences by your daily presence, that when your Son, our Lord comes, he may find in us a place prepared for himself; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offering

The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around

the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

Hymn

Behold, a Branch Is Growing #360



1 Be - hold, a branch is grow - ing of love - liest form and
2 I - sa - iah had fore - told it in words of prom - ise
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



grace! As proph - ets sang, fore - know - ing, it springs from Jes - se's
sure, and Mar - y's arms en - fold it, a vir - gin meek and
air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - 'ry
woes, O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, who con - quered all our



race and now be - gins to flow'r in midst of
pure. Through God's e - ter - nal will this child to
where. True man, and yet true God, from sin and
foes, bring us at last, we pray, to the bright



cold - est win - ter, at deep - est mid - night hour.
her is giv - en at mid - night calm and still.
death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
courts of heav - en and to the end - less day.

Prayer

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ,

our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes #313:1 & 4

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.

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302 Prepare the Royal Highway CW 302

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Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

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25A To You, O LORD, I Lift My Soul Psalm 25A

Tune: Mark Haas

Setting: Mark Haas

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This Week at Zion

Today:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Bible Study
	10:45 a.m.	Christmas Decorating
	2:00 p.m.	Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee Christmas concert
Mon:	6 – 8:00 p.m.	KML Freshman Registration
	7:00 p.m.	Endowment committee
Tue:	12:30 p.m.	Pastors' Circuit meeting at KML
Wed:	6:00 p.m.	Advent Supper in fellowship hall
	7:00 p.m.	Advent worship
Thu:	7:00 p.m.	Worship
Sat:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Christmas practice
Sun:	7:30 / 9:45 a.m.	Worship with LPS Prep Singers
	8:30 / 8:45 a.m.	Sunday School / Bible Study
	2:30 p.m.	KML Winter Band Concert
	3 & 7:00 p.m.	Seminary Chorus Christmas Concerts, Mequon

In Our Prayers Rick Meier, undergoing back surgery in Neenah this week.

Advent Supper / Worship Prepare your hearts as we begin the Advent season with a special service this Wednesday at 7 p.m., preceded by a supper at 6 p.m. All are invited to attend.

In Memory of Marilyn Martin, \$1200 in memorials were given to the scholarship fund by family and friends. Sincere thanks.

Choir Visiting The Prep Singers, a 36 voice choir from Luther Preparatory School in Watertown will be with us during the two Sunday services next

weekend to sing a number of Advent / Christmas songs. Please join us, and you're welcome to bring a friend as well.

Christmas Decorating A lot of work has already been done in setting up the Christmas trees and putting the lights on. Now we need all hands on deck to complete the process. Join us after the late service today around 10:45 to decorate the trees and the rest of the church. Your help will be appreciated.

Communion Schedule Due to the special choir next Sunday, we will be celebrating Holy Communion on December 15th instead of the 8th.

The WELS Connection for November will be shown after church today. It explains more about a new music center being planned for the campus of Luther Preparatory School in Watertown that will serve young people through the years as they prepare to serve and praise God through music.

Pick up the new December *Forward in Christ* magazines from the cabinets in the entryway, as well as the new church calendar and church newsletter.

We thank Barb Olsen who served as our organist this morning.

Christmas Concerts This time of year there is no shortage of ways to prepare for Christmas by means of Christmas concerts. The Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee kicks off the season with a concert this afternoon at 2 p.m. Next Sunday afternoon, the Seminary Chorus, a 70-voice men's choir composed of students at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, will present its annual Festival of Lessons and Carols at 3 and 7 p.m. in the campus auditorium. Check the newsletter for additional concerts in the area.

KML's 12 Days of Christmas Over twelve days in December, Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School's Student Council and National Honor Society work to collect money through student involvement to support families in need. This year we are raising money to help the Heimsch, Kruschel, and Smidl families. Parents, federation members, alumni, friends, and the community are encouraged to donate as well. To read these

families' stories, donate to support them, or learn more about the 12 Days of Christmas at KML, visit kmlhs.org/12days.

Living Nativity If you would like to give your children a good experience of that first Christmas night, St. Paul's in Howards Grove is hosting their annual Living Nativity this coming weekend with all the live animals and refreshments and music afterward. Check the details in the December newsletter.