

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
Thief River Falls, MN
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
December 19, 2021 9:00AM



2021 Sunday School Program

Little Lambs – 5th Grade

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Zach & Kelsey Johnson family

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN- “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” ELW #270

Sunday School Songs and Readings

- “Born is the King”
- “Deck the Halls”
- Luke 2:1-20
Readers: Jacey Klaven, Landen Larson, Nora Bruggeman, Dawson Colden,
- “Little Drummer Boy”
- Jesus Was Born on Christmas Day
Readers: Lily Bregier, Hayden Blumer, Miley Bruggeman
- “Happy Birthday Jesus”

CHILDREN’S SERMON - Shawna Spears

NOISY OFFERING- 2nd & 3rd graders

Today’s Noisy Offering will go to the DeFrang family

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN- “Go Tell It on the Mountain” ELW #290

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Songs during communion:

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” ELW#279

“The First Noel” ELW#300

“What Child Is This” ELW#296

Sunday School Songs and Readings

- Reading- The Meaning of Christmas Penny Nelson & Blake Scheef
- “Away in a Manger” - Congregation sing verse 3 to the kids
**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.**

- A Christmas Prayer
Avery Walseth, Nora Fay, Dylan Bregier
- “Let it Shine/Joy to the World”

Benediction– 4th & 5th Grade Class

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the Wiseman, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. Amen

Song “We Wish You a Merry Christmas”

SENDING HYMN- “Joy to The World” ELW #267

DISMISSAL: Glory to God in the Highest

RESPONSE: And on Earth, Peace, Good Will to All!

WELCOME! ZION'S LAY MINISTRY/EVANGELISM BOARD SAYS A SPECIAL WELCOME TO YOU THIS MORNING AND MAY YOU BE FED SPIRITUALLY DURING THIS TIME OF WORSHIP.

OUR THANKS TO TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Advent Readers: Zach & Kelsey Johnson family

Pianist: Laura Rude

Acolytes: Brenna Alby, Syver Bertilrud

Ushers: Glenice Johnson, Krista Johnson

Greeters: Maverick Iverson, Lauren Johnson

Communion assistants: Dick Haugen, Ruth Ostby

OUR SYMPATHY to Matt, Ella & Wyatt DeFrang on the death of their wife/mother, Jonelle. Jo's parents Mark & Virginia Swanson, and grandmother Vivian Knutson.

THE POINSETTIA by the altar today is given in memory of Laura Fay's dad, Dan Braithwaite by the Zion Christian Ed & Youth Board

BROADCASTS today are sponsored by Bob & Donna Grendahl in memory of Doris Runger.

ZION'S WEBSITE for December is sponsored by Chris & Nicky Ellison & family in memory of Suzy Ellison

REMINDER to those hospitalized If you wish Pastor Mark to call, please let the office know.

ZION WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE Sunday mornings you can listen to the 9:00AM service online. Go to: www.ziontrf.org, in the black banner click Listen Online, Click on the RED link to KTRF.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS may be brought for the Christmas Eve Worship. If you would like to share one in memory or in honor of someone, please call the church office by December 20th so that it can be noted in the bulletin.

CHRISTMAS EVE worship will be at 4:00 PM and 10:00 PM at Zion. 5:30 PM at Silver Creek. The 4PM worship will be broadcast live on Cable Channel 3.

LWR QUILTING the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays of the month 1- 4pm. Questions? call Sharon Bergeron 681-5445, or Renee Henney 964-5816

BEREAVED PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS SUPPORT GROUP: Are you a parent or grandparent of a child or grandchild of any age who has died? Would you be interested in support in dealing with your loss (doesn't have to be recent)? You are welcome to join us this group to offer you some support. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, December 21, at 10:30 am** in the Lounge at Zion. Pastor Mark will be leading us. If you have questions, please call Marcia S. @ 681-6242.

STEWARDSHIP (Envelopes/Vanco Electronic Giving/Silver Creek included in all totals)

December 6-12 income: \$9,268.

December 1-12: income: \$14,084.

Year to Date income Jan 1– Dec. 12: \$298,864.

2021 budget \$353,032. / \$6,789. is needed per week to meet budgeted expenses.

Vanco Electronic Giving is available - forms are on the table by the office. You can also set up contributions thru Zion's website.

ENVELOPE BOXES are available in the narthex. Those who receive boxed envelopes should note that they have been renumbered for 2022. Most contributors will have a new contributor number in 2022. Please do not use the 2022 envelopes until after January 1st, 2022.

Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® Eligible Thrivent Financial members: Show your appreciation for Zion Lutheran Church by directing Choice Dollars. The individual recommendations you make through Choice Dollars directions can make a profound impact.

LSS RESPITE CARE - Thursdays, 9am-1pm in the Lounge. For more info contact Julie Praska Moser at 218-686-6229

LSS CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP will meet on Thursday, December 9th from 10-11:00 AM at Zion. All caregivers are welcome, you do not need to register. Please spread the word to those who can benefit from this group. More info Julie Praska Moser 218-686-6228

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation
Mark Helgeland, *Interim Pastor*
Tiffany Sterry & David Lee, *Custodial*

Office Phone: 681-3296 *Fax:* 681-3048
Linda Hamrick, *Office Manager* ziontrf@mncable.net

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Today - Dec 19: 4th Sunday of Advent

9:00 Sunday School Christmas Program/Broadcast
ch. 3; KTRF;
10-11 Sunday School
10 Faith & Fellowship French Toast Breakfast
10:30 Silver Creek Holy Communion worship
SC Council meeting following worship
12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37

Monday, Dec 20:

9 SAIL
7 Troop 59
7 Zion Council meeting (date change)

Tuesday, Dec 21:

9:30 Staff meeting
10:30 Bereavement Group
12 noon Pastors text study

Wednesday, Dec. 22:

No Confirmation
6 God's Joy
7 Senior Choir

Thursday, Dec. 23:

9 SAIL
9-1 LSS Respite Care in lounge

Friday, Dec 24: Christmas Eve

Church offices closed
4:00 Zion Candlelight Worship
5:30 Silver Creek Worship
10:00 Zion Holy Communion Worship

Next Sunday, Dec 26: 1st Sunday of Christmas

9:00 Zion Worship/Broadcast ch. 3; KTRF;
No Silver Creek worship
12:00 Zion broadcast on cable ch. 37



Sunday School meets from 10:00 to 11:00 AM

Thank you to our student families who are providing treats for coffee fellowship!

NOISY OFFERING collected today will go to the DeFrang Family.

No Sunday School December 26th or January 2nd. Classes resume January 9th.

Thank you for an awesome first half of our Sunday school year!!! I think I can speak for everyone when we say it's been good for the soul to be back in person for worship and Sunday school, and we look forward to seeing you in 2022!

Also please sign up for **Remind**, this will be a form of communication for upcoming events, and weather cancellations if needed. I did archive the past years, so if you were signed up you will need to sign up again. **Remind code is @743332**

*Please note this is different from last week..... sorry!

On behalf of Zion Lutheran Church we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!

Peace, Love and Happiness
Amber and Laura

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP - December 19th

(formerly Flapjacks for Faith) in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having Food and Fellowship the 3rd Sunday of each month. Donations during these events will go towards new furniture for our Sunday school classrooms.



8-10TH GRADE WEDNESDAY CONFIRMATION

A meal is served at 5:15 followed by classes at 6PM.

Next Confirmation Class – January 5, 2022

Menu: Tater Tot hotdish \$4.00 Pop .50

CONFIRMATION PARENTS: Please sign up for REMIND. You may be missing out on important information. To sign up text: @ziontrf to 81010

Available in the church office:

2022 God's Creation Calendars \$8.00 ; Magnetic notepads with bible verses \$4.00

Christmas cards \$7.00 for 12 cards; Blank notecards \$7.00 for 12 cards

GOSPEL MESSAGE

December 19, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A Companion in the Waiting

It is possible that not everyone who found out Mary was pregnant was as supportive as her cousin Elizabeth in our reading today. Since receiving the angel's message, Mary likely felt uncertain, worried, scared, and alone plenty of times. So, when she visited her cousin Elizabeth and received Elizabeth's blessing in words that echoed the angel Gabriel's announcement, it must have been comforting to Mary. Hearing Elizabeth's words of affirmation was a reminder to Mary that she was not alone in her journey and that God really was at work in her life.

At one point or another, we all need a reminder like this in our lives. It is not always easy to recognize God's presence or to see just how God is at work in and through us. And sometimes much waiting is required until we see the fulfillment of God's promises. That's why we need people in our lives who will believe with us when we feel less than certain, walk with us through uncharted terrain, and support and pray for us along our journey.

Our gospel presents us with two unlikely mothers. Their experiences remind us that knowing God is with us—and even that we have received God's favor—does not mean our lives will be without hardship. We will still encounter challenges, experience grief, and have our hearts broken. But it does mean that in our waiting, and in our struggles, we are not alone. Through those who wait with us, and through the promise of Advent, we are reminded that Emmanuel is here, and has been with us all along.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.