

## **Worship Plan for Advent 2021**

Zion Lutheran Church

November 28, 2021



### **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- On behalf of the Zion Church Family, a very warm welcome to our guests, friends, and family. We are so pleased you are with us. Welcome to Zion!
- If you are here by Zoom or by phone, a special welcome to you as well. You can find our bulletin on our website, or you are welcome to just listen along.
- For this morning's worship, we will have Holy Communion with bread and wine received at the rail. Instructions will be given at that time. If at home, you will need bread and wine to participate.
- We invite you to fill out our attendance sheet, as well as to reflect on the question at the bottom of it.
- Finally, we ask that you wear a mask and maintain distance from those outside of your household for the duration of our time together.

### **FRAMING QUESTION**

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE AND CENTERING**

*You are invited to center yourself in this worship through a moment of prayer.*

- *Breath Prayer – breathe deeply, recognizing God's own breath in your breath, God's presence within and beside you.*

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who alone does wonders,  
who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

P God for whom we wait,

C **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you.**

**We fail in believing that your good news is for us.**

**We falter in our call to tend your creation.**

**We find our sense of self in material wealth.**

**We fear those different from ourselves.**

**We forget that we are your children, and turn away from your love.**

**Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace.**

**Amen.**

P God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven.

You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and  
recipients of divine mercy.

God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## \*OPENING HYMN

### People, Look East

ELW #248

1 People, look east. The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,  
one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,  
bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Star, is on the way.

2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
that in course the flow'r may flourish.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

4 Angels announce with shouts of mirth  
him who brings new life to earth.  
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming  
with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east, and sing today—  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

### \*GREETING

P 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.

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. Make us ready for your presence, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

### KYRIE & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*For the Kyrie & Lighting of the Advent candle, we will begin by singing verses 1 and 2 of the Kyrie, pause for the litany and lighting, then sing two verses of O Come O Come Emmanuel to the tune of the Kyrie, before returning to verse 1 of the Kyrie.*



### Candle Lighting Litany - Advent 1 (Molandes Family)

L1 At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming. O Emmanuel,

C Wake us up to your coming.

L2 We gather together to expect the unexpected and imagine the unimaginable.  
O Emmanuel,

C Wake us up to your coming.

L1 We wait for the day when God will recycle tanks into tractors and transform minefields into soccer fields. O Emmanuel,

C Wake us up to your coming.

**L2** We stay awake by telling stories that offer a glimmer of a future and agitate dormant hope within us. O Emmanuel,

**C** **Wake us up to your coming.**

**L1** Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of this candle, whose flame brings warmth to winter and fills this place with the glow of hope.

**C** **Amen.**

*Light the first candle.*

### **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (to the tune of Kyrie)**

Advent 1 (November 28):

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay;  
teach us your will and guide our way.

*Return to Kyrie verse 1*

### **THE WORD**

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song.*

#### **READING**

Jeremiah 33:14-16

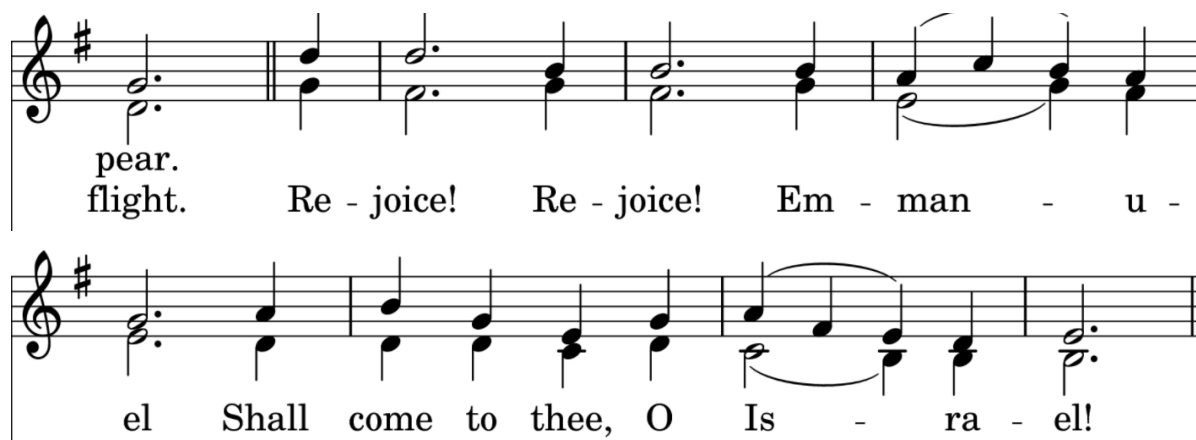
*p. 645, Pew Bible*

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Word of God, Word of Life.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL VERSE



## \*GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

*p. 856-857, Pew Bible*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup>“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”<sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup>“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.” **P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

Away in a Manger

ELW #277

1 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 on the hay.

3. 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.

## SERMON

## SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

#### Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW #242

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,<br/>for angels herald its dawning.<br/>Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,<br/>behold! the Child of our longing.<br/>Come as a baby weak and poor,<br/>to bring all hearts together,<br/>he opens wide the heav'nly door<br/>and lives now inside us forever.</p> <p>2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear,<br/>Emmanuel comes a-singing,<br/>his humble song is quiet and near,<br/>yet fills the earth with its ringing;<br/>music to heal the broken soul<br/>and hymns of lovingkindness,<br/>the thunder of his anthems roll<br/>to shatter all hatred and blindness.</p> | <p>3 In darkest night his coming shall be,<br/>when all the world is despairing,<br/>as morning light so quiet and free,<br/>so warm and gentle and caring.<br/>Then shall the mute break forth in song,<br/>the lame shall leap in wonder,<br/>the weak be raised above the strong,<br/>and weapons be broken asunder.</p> <p>4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,<br/>though dark the winter and cheerless,<br/>the rising sun shall crown you with light,<br/>be strong and loving and fearless.<br/>Love be our song and love our prayer<br/>and love our endless story;<br/>may God fill ev'ry day we share<br/>and bring us at last into glory.</p> |
|--|---|

### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.
- A God of presence and peace, inspire your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your great love coming to the whole world. Open our hearts to recognize your face in all people and in all of creation. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A God of evergreen trees and snapdragons, Woodland Heights and Near Northside, city and countryside, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destructive storms. We pray for those whose lives have been upended by natural disasters, for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**

A God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing, and life transitions of every kind *especially Doris, Ruth, Kathy, Joshua, Keith, Marian, Irene, Donna, Ginni, and Jan*. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Hear now these prayers we name before you (pause). Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

C Amen.

### **\*PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Please share the peace with your neighbor.

### **THE MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ, who comes to us in love.*

### **OFFERING**

### **ANTHEM**

### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

A Let us pray together. God of our waiting and watching,

C **we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.**

### **\*DIALOGUE**

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 our thanks and praise.**

### **\*PREFACE (ADVENT)**

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 comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,  
Through whom you will also make all things new  
In the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.  
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:

### **\*SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might:

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### **\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.



## \*LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us sing as Jesus taught us:

*mp*  
Our God, in hea-ven, ho-ly is your name, your  
reign come, your will done, on earth as in hea-ven.  
*slower*  
Give us to-day our dai-ly bread, and help us for-give, as we have been for-giv-en.  
*mf*  
In the time of tri-al lead us in-to light, for yours is the kin-dom, and the  
*f* po-wer, and the glo-ry, for-e-ver. *mp* Our God, in  
hea-ven, ho-ly is your name, ho-ly is your name.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.  
Come, eat, drink, and be satisfied.

## COMMUNION HYMN

What Feast Of Love

ELW #487

1 What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!

2 What light of truth is offered here,  
what covenant from heaven?  
What hope of everlasting life,  
what wondrous word is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the sun come down from heaven.  
Oh, see and hear and sing!  
The Word of God is given!

3 What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the sweetest wine of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!

He Came Down That We May Have Love

ELW #253

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P Now that you have tasted the goodness of God in bread and wine, let us be the  
body of Christ, blessed and broken for the whole world.  
**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Most High God, you have come among us at this table.  
By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy  
and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.  
C **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **\*CLOSING HYMN**

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW #244

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing,  
and darker night is near.  
The bridegroom is arising  
and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
at midnight comes the cry.

3 The saints, who here in patience  
their cross and suff'rings bore,  
shall live and reign forever  
when sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
the Lamb they shall behold;  
in triumph cast before him  
their diadems of gold.

2 The watchers on the mountain  
proclaim the bridegroom near;  
go forth as he approaches  
with alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
the gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
the bridegroom is at hand.

4 Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
arise, O Sun so longed for,  
o'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
we plead, O Lord, to see  
the day of earth's redemption  
that sets your people free!

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **\*BLESSING**

P The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,  
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,  
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,  
✠ now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## **\*DISMISSAL & PEACE**

A Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God, (and WE WILL)**

## **POSTLUDE**