



Zion Lutheran Church – LCMS
20-141 County Road X – P.O. Box 37 – Ridgeville Corners, OH 43555
Phone: (419)267-3429 Email: zionrco@bright.net
Education Hour 8:45 AM - Divine Worship 10:00 AM
Communion First and Third Sundays
Rev. Dr. Carl Rockrohr, Pastor
Phone: (419)267-3429 Email: pastor.zionrco@bright.net

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 – 1 pm & 7 pm
3rd Wednesday in Advent

Prelude
Tower Bells and Welcome
Announcements

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING

Opening Hymn

Hark the Glad Sound

LSB 349

OPENING VERSICLES FOR ADVENT (*Congregation Stands*)

P: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

C: Our God shall come; He does not keep silence.

P: Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: Make His paths straight.

P: Shower, O heaven, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

C: Let the earth open, that salvation may spout forth.

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: The name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen.

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE (*Congregation sits*)

Genesis 15:1-6

1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." 2 But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." 4 And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." 5

And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." 6 And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Micah 5:2-5a

2 But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

4 And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

5 And he shall be their peace.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 2:1-12 (*Stand*)

1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

6 "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."

7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." 9 After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11 And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his

mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. 12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY (*Remain standing*)

P: Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

C: This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

P: He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

C: This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C: This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

THIRD ARTICLE OF THE CREED AND MEANING (*Remain standing*)

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.

What does this mean? I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

SERMON – “God the Holy Spirit Calls All Lost Sinners to Know and Trust in Jesus”

SERMON HYMN

Savior of the Nation, Come

LSB 332

Collect for God’s Word Among Us *Congregation Stands*

C: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

P: Let us bless the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB 374

Silent Prayer, Extinguish Candles

Postlude

Depart in His Peace

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**Zion Lutheran Church
Advent and Christmas Schedule**

December Worship Schedule:

Wednesday, Dec 1	1 & 7 PM
Sunday, Dec 5 (Communion)	10 AM
Wednesday, Dec 8	1 & 7 PM
Sunday, Dec 12	10 AM
Wednesday, Dec 15	1 & 7 PM
Sunday, Dec 19 (Communion)	10 AM
Christmas Eve, Dec 24	1 & 7 PM
Christmas Day, Dec 25 (Communion)	10 AM
Sunday, Dec 26	10 AM
New Year's Eve, Dec 31 (Communion)	1 & 7 PM

Sermon Notes – “God the Holy Spirit Calls All Lost Sinners to Know and Trust in Jesus”

And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

Luke 1:35

I. The Holy Spirit worked faith and a miraculous _____ in Mary to bear the Son of God.

Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:3

II. The Holy Spirit Calls Sinners to _____ in God’s Promises

a. Genesis 15:1-6 – God made a promise that even in his and his wife’s old age, Abraham would have a son.

“And he _____ the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.”

b. The Wise Men said, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to _____ him.”

The Wise Men were given a star and word of promise to follow. Of their own power, they did not create the star, nor decide to follow to worship Jesus. The Holy Spirit

moved them to pay attention and _____ the star.

The Holy Spirit empowered the Wise Men to find Whom they should worship.

c. The Holy Spirit draws and empowers people to say “Jesus is _____.”

And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the _____ of the earth. And he shall be their _____ .

Micah 5:4-5

III. The Holy Spirit wants to draw _____ people to believe and have _____

So also, us.