



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

Friday, December 31, 2021
New Year's Eve – 1:00 & 7:00 pm

Prelude
Tower Bells
Welcome
Announcements

Visitors are encouraged to note their attendance by filling out the "Welcome" side (blue print) of the pew cards and putting the card into the offering plate near the entrance doors. Those taking Communion are asked to fill out the "Communion" side (black print) of the card. Completed cards may also be left on the pew seat.

Opening Hymn

A Great and Mighty Wonder

LSB 383

Confession and Absolution

LSB 151

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the
world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
3 You return man to dust
and say, "Return, O children of man!"
4 For a thousand years in your sight
**are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.**
5 You sweep them away as with a flood; they
**are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning:**
6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.
7 For we are brought to an end by your anger;

by your wrath we are dismayed.
8 You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.
9 For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
10 The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
**yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.**
11 Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?
12 So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.
17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon
us,
**and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!**

Kyrie (*Speak*)

LSB 152

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

P: (*Speak*) The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

**All: Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commit to
Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy
Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns
with Your and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

8 And now, go, write it before them on a tablet and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come as a witness forever.

9 For they are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the instruction of the LORD;

10 who say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us what is right; speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions,

11 leave the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel."

12 Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, "Because you despise this word and trust in oppression and perverseness and rely on them,

13 therefore this iniquity shall be to you like a breach in a high wall, bulging out and about to collapse,

whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant; 14 and its breaking is like that of a potter's vessel that is smashed so ruthlessly that among its fragments not a shard is found with which to take fire from the hearth, or to dip up water out of the cistern."

15 For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel,

"In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength."

But you were unwilling,

16 and you said,

"No! We will flee upon horses"; therefore you shall flee away;

and, "We will ride upon swift steeds"; therefore your pursuers shall be swift.

17 A thousand shall flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you shall flee, till you are left like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, like a signal on a hill.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 8:31-39

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (*Stand and speak*) LSB 156

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel Luke 12:35-40

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

35 "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, 36 and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. 37 Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. 38 If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! 39 But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. 40 You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn

Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

LSB 900

Sermon

Nicene Creed

LSB 158 (*Inside back cover of hymnal*)

Offerings Brought Forward

Prayer of Zion Lutheran Church

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the year now ending; for what has been done wrongly; for the evils and hurts endured; for hard times and the idols God has exposed among us; and for unbelief, yet in confidence that, if we are faithless, Christ remains faithful and will not deny Himself, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In thanksgiving for this congregation and the Lord's preservation for another year; and for His preservation in the year to come, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For His blessing and guidance; for the preservation of faithful preaching and teaching in this place; for the Sacraments administered according to His command and promise; and that we may continue in His service and reach out in love to our community, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all families that the Word of the Lord may continue richly among them; for the health and protection of all pregnant mothers and their children, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our nation and its government, that God would be pleased to preserve our republic; for those who serve in positions of authority, that God would give them health and competence; for those who serve in the line of danger; and for peace in our time, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In thanksgiving for the year now ending; for gifts showered upon us; for life, healing and comfort; and for spiritual and physical well-being, all of which God has given not because of merit in us, but out of His love in Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who suffer from any sickness, need or affliction, we remember _____; that in the coming year God would provide comfort, preservation and relief from their ills, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the year to come, that He would guard and guide us by His strong arm; that He would lead us according to His Word; that He would renew in us clean hearts that trust Him and show love to our neighbors; and that we would commend this and all time to the Lord's blessing and love, until He brings this life on earth to an end, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Abide among us, heavenly Father, with Your Holy Spirit, that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please contact Pastor Rockrohr for changes to the prayer list.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface, Sanctus, Prayer of Thanksgiving (*speak*) LSB 160-161

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 Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things that are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Silent Prayer, Extinguish Candles

Postlude

Depart in His Peace

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Zion Lutheran Church's Belief and Practice of the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very Body and Blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes again in glory.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

For further study: Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f., 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; 11:17-34.

Sermon Notes – God’s Book of Life Can’t Be Changed

Romans 8:35-39 and Revelation 3:5; 13:8; 20:12, 15;21:27

I. Temporary knowledge and temporary power means temporary _____

Examples...

Rom. 8:35 – Constantly changing dangers and _____

8:36 – God’s people might even be _____

8:37 – These situations are not in charge – more than conquerors in Christ

- Does not mean there is no suffering. It means these do not _____

8:38-39 – What power, entity or part of the universe does Paul not include?

- Nothing is able to separates us from the love of God in _____ Jesus.

II. Who Decides the Future of God’s People?

Not powers of this _____ (see point I above!)

Not you and me.

John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

God's Book of Life from Before the Foundation of the World

Revelation 3:5 - *The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.*

13:8 - *...and all who dwell on earth will worship it [the beast], everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.*

20:12, 15 - *And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*

21:22-27 - *And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.*

- World's Events and Powers Are Not in Charge, God Is
- Temporary Suffering May Come to God's People in His Plan, but God Plans Permanent Life and Permanent Rest. God Keeps His _____ Even in Suffering.
- Death and Resurrection of God's Son Finalized the Outcome: Death and Evil Are Defeated
- Nobody Changes God's Book of Life
- We enter every new year with _____ in charge.