



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 13, 2023 – 1 pm & 7 pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in Advent

Prelude  
Tower Bells and Welcome  
Announcements

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING

Opening Hymn

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (vs 1,2,4,5)*

LSB 341

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

**Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE (*Congregation sits*)

Exodus 12:1-13 – The Passover

1 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, 2 “This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. 3 Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. 4 And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. 5 **Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old.** You

may take it from the sheep or from the goats, 6 and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

**7 “Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.** 8 They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. 10 And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 11 In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD’S Passover. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. **13 The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.**

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

1 John 2:1-6

**1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.** 3 And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. 4 Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, 5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: **6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.**

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

John 10:7-10 (*Stand*)

**7 So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.** 8 All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. **I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.**

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.**

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**What does this mean? I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.**

SERMON – “I AM the Door of the Sheep”

SERMON HYMN

*Let All Together Praise Our God (vs 1,2,6,7)*  
*(The offering is brought forward on the last verse.)*

LSB 389

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.**

Evening Prayer

**C: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. 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

*All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night (vs 4-6)*

LSB 883

## Silent Prayer, Extinguish Candles

## Postlude

## Depart in His Peace

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### Advent – Christmas - New Year’s Eve 2023 Worship Schedule at Zion Lutheran

Wednesday, Dec. 13	1:00 & 7:00 PM Advent Service
Sunday, Dec. 17	10:00 AM (with Lord’s Supper)
Wednesday, Dec. 20	1:00 & 7:00 PM Advent Service
Sunday, Dec. 24	10:00 AM 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service with Children
Monday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day	10:00 AM (with Lord’s Supper)
Sunday, Dec. 31, New Year’s Eve	10:00 AM