

# SENDING

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## BLESSING

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. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE** *The Coventry Carol* Jill Sousek, piano

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John the Baptist is portrayed as a fiery, prophet-like figure in the wilderness, preaching on the coming of the Messiah with passion. The figure of John emerges, relatively small in comparison to the surrounding landscape, to give a sense of scale to the wilderness he is in. People appear, surrounding him to listen. Then a move is made from dry wilderness to the Jordan River Valley. The waters rise around John. The crowd takes its place on the banks. They then move into the river to be baptized. The dove appears in the distance over John's head, symbolizing the presence of the Holy Spirit. - *Paul Oman*

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Welcoming All,  
Growing,  
and Sharing God's Love.*



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# Second Sunday of Advent

## December 6, 2020

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1254 S. Union Street, Shawano, WI 54166

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## Holy Communion

**PRELUDE** Jill Sousek, piano

**Welcome and Announcements**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The sign of the cross ☩ may be made in remembrance of Baptism.*

Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires. Loving and forgiving God,  
**we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free— free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, ☩ comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**MUSIC** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* Jill Sousek, piano

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

# ADVENT CANDLES

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Last Sunday we lit the first candle – the candle of hope. Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

*Candle of peace is lit.*

**MUSIC** *Variation 1 on a French Noel* Jill Sousek, piano

## ADVENT PRAYER

**Loving God, in time of preparation and planning, we thank you for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

# WORD

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**HOLY GOSPEL** Mark 1:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**DRAWN TO THE WORD VIDEO**

**REFLECTIONS**

**MUSIC** *Whiter Than Snow* Jill Sousek, piano

## APOSTLES’ CREED

We have been made God’s people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Hear us, O God. / **Your mercy is great.**

*The petitions conclude:* ... Jesus Christ our Lord. / **Amen**

# COMMUNION

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## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**LORD’S PRAYER** *(Traditional)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION

**MUSIC** *I Wonder As I Wander* Jill Sousek, piano

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER