

HYMN "Joy to the World" *Sing with our masks on!*

- 1 **Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**
- 2 **Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**
- 3 **No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**
- 4 **He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

Pastor: Go in Joy! Share the gift of Jesus!

People: Thanks be to God!

RECESSIONAL

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Worship Volunteers:

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ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



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**Christmas Eve at Zion 2020
Candlelight Eucharist † 5:30pm**

Candlelight Eucharist – 5:30 p.m.

PRELUDE Christmas Carols – Jill Sousek, piano

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

PROCESSION OF LIGHT

MUSIC *Christmas Medley* Jill Sousek, piano

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

People: **And also with you.**

LITANY

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

Pastor: Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has a light shined.

People: **We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only son from the father.**

Pastor: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

People: **In him was life, and the life was the light of the world.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

MUSIC *Angels We Have Heard on High* Jill Sousek, piano

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE Pastor Scott Ludford

MUSIC *Christmas Tidings* Jill Sousek, piano

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Most gracious God, we give you thanks that you have heard the cries of us, your children, lost in darkness. We joyously celebrate the birth of your Son whom you sent to us to be our light and show us your way of life. Remember your people this night and always.

Let the brilliance of your loving grace dispel the gloom and bleakness of our lives. And let the glow of your gospel glisten strongly in us so that we may be your light to the world. Remember those this evening that are in need of healing..., and those we name in our hearts...; Keep those who travel these holiday days safe. In the name of your Son, our Savior and Light, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

CONSECRATION

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized and communing Christians who confess the Real Presence of Christ in, with and under the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's Table. The body and blood of Christ are served in a kit of wafer & wine. "Amen" is an appropriate response after receiving the elements. Non-communing children are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Peel the thin top layer back first for your wafer, then peel back the film covering the wine. White grape juice kits are also available. Gluten-free wafers are available.

MUSIC *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* and *He is Born, How Great Our Joy* Jill Sousek, piano

COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

HYMN "Silent Night" *Sing with our masks on!*

- 1 **Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**
- 2 **Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts...sing Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**
- 3 **Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the light of this child light your way forever. May the blessings which broke through the darkness on this night be yours always. May you always have cause to sing praises, give thanks, and celebrate the true light of the world, our Savior, Jesus Christ.