



CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP
December 25, 2022 + 9:00 a.m.

Zion-Public WiFi password: Zion54484

Congregational responses are in BOLD.

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Regardless of your church membership or affiliation, all are encouraged to participate in communion or to come forward for a blessing.

Children of all ages are encouraged to worship with the whole community in Christ. Children's worship bags are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Page numbers that are listed are found in the front of the cranberry-colored hymnal on the bottom of the page. Hymn numbers are listed in bold, large print on the top of the page.

If you would like home communion, hospital visit, or a conversation with the pastor, please contact the church office at 715.687.4110 or at office@zionstratford.org or Pastor Amy Heinz at 608.498.5772 or pastoramy@zionstratford.org.

Ministers: All the People of God through the love of Jesus and the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit

Pastor: Rev. Amy Heinz

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Busche

Organists: Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke, Ryan Huther

Custodian: Rod Huther

Missionaries: Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

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THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CENTERING

We Gather in Grace

CHRISTMAS LITANY

Let us go to Bethlehem;

Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass.

Let us go with the shepherds;

Let us go to find the Savior!

Let us go with the wise ones;

Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!

Let us go with the poor and humble;

Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.

Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations.

Come let us worship, come let us adore him;

Christ the Lord! Amen!**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW 267

GREETING AND PRAYER

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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.*

We Hear the Word of God

THE OTHER WISE MAN PART 1

READING Matthew 2:1-6

HYMN *Of the Father's Love
Begotten* ELW 295

THE OTHER WISE MAN PART 2

READING Luke 10:29-35

HYMN *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
v. 1, 3 ELW 270

THE OTHER WISE MAN PART 3

READING Matthew 2:16-18

HYMN *The Bells of Christmas*
v. 1, 3, 4 ELW 298

THE OTHER WISE MAN PART 4

READING Matthew 25:34-40

HYMN *In the Bleak Midwinter*
v. 1, 3 ELW 294

THE OTHER WISE MAN PART 5

READING Mark 15:33-39

HYMN *I Heard the Bells on
Christmas Day* v. 1, 3, 4 See screen

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe on the Holy Spirit, the Lord , the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

Eternal God,

we bow before the mystery of your incarnation.

You have chosen weakness to confound the strong
and poverty to send the rich empty away.

**We remember the millions in our world today
who are hungry, who receive no hospitality—
all with whom your Son has become one by being born in a
manger.**

Merciful God,

we call upon you for all who have fled their homes in the darkness
of night.

**We remember the millions in our world who have been made
refugees,
who have sought asylum in lands not their own,
who are displaced, homeless, landless, or lost—
all whose experience you have made your own in the life of your
Son.**

Loving God,

our hearts are heavy
with the sufferings of this world.

**We remember the many victims of political power and greed;
the innocent killed in war and violence,
all those tortured or put to death,
those who languish in prison or camps,
those missing or taken hostage—
all whose lot your Son shared by being born when Herod was
king.**

Gracious God,
you placed yourself in the care of Mary
to show to the world your will to save.
**Give us grace to follow her example:
to become instruments of your grace,
servants of your will,
and channels of your love.
May it happen to us as you have willed.**

O God of peace,
you fill our hearts with hope at every Christmastide,
for we remember again that this is the world you have loved.
May hope, peace, and joy fill our hearts on this day and all to
come.
Amen.**

We Share the Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *What Feast of Love* ELW 487 vs. 1

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God,
you have shown your great love for your children
by using commonplace things for your purpose—
water to mark your children,
bread and wine to feed and nourish us ordinary people to be
disciples,
a child in a manger to announce your grace.
Take these commonplace things,
these gifts of paper and metal and the lives that stand behind
them.
Bless and use them to proclaim your gracious love,
for we offer them in the name of Jesus, the Lamb of God.
Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 SONGS

The First Noel

ELW 300

Angels From the Realms of Glory

ELW 275

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We Serve the World in God's Name

BENEDICTION

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the Magi,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas season.
And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* **ELW 288**

DISMISSAL

We go in peace serving the Lord,
with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

The Story of the Other Wiseman is a short story by Henry Van Dyke, published in 1895, and now in the public domain. It has been adapted in sermon form and as a readers' theater event by the Rev. Amy Heinz.



Sunday, January 1, 2023
New Year's Day Worship
with Holy Communion
9:00 am
"The Genealogy of
Jesus: So What?"



Congregational
MEETING

January 29, 2023

Following the 9am worship service.

Zion Lutheran Church

Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

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