



**Second Sunday After Epiphany
The Temptation of Jesus**

January 15, 2023 + 9:00 a.m.

Baptism of Oliver Juan Ochoa

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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PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Gather in Grace

NEW YEAR'S PRAYER OF INVOCATION

A new day has begun!

Are you ready to give God praise?

We are ready!

Are you ready to leave behind the baggage?

We are ready!

Are you ready to step out in faith?

We are ready!

Are you ready to forgive?

We are ready!

Even the one who hurt you the most?

We are ready!

Are you ready to release your doubts and fears?

We are ready!

**O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! We are yours
and we are ready! Alleluia! Amen!**

<https://carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship/church-year-new-year/>

GATHERING HYMN *“Arise, Your Light Has Come!”* **ELW 314**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us make a hopeful confession to God.

Brief silence for individual reflection and confession.

**We seek you, God, in the spaces of our lives.
The spaces between what we've done
and what we've left undone.
The spaces between our convictions
and our actions,
the spaces between all that we hoped to do,
and what we've actually done.
We come with humility,
knowing that we can't always see
the ways we've disappointed you,
nor can we always see
the long-term effects of the good we've done.
This is a prayer for the road ahead,
which is an empty space stretching before us.
Fill us with a burning compassion
for those around us,
a love that will not let us go.
Give us courage to to give boldly,
love simply,
hope deeply,
risk greatly.
Our light is small,
our time is short,
but let it shine for you,
always, ever, all for you.
Amen.
God hears our fervent prayer.
In the name of + Jesus Christ,
our sins are pardoned.
The penalty is paid.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

GREETING

May the love of God the Father, the grace of Jesus the Son,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit abide with you all.
And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

ACS Setting 11

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of strength,
Your son Jesus withstood many temptations because his love for
you was greater than his earthly desires. Make our love for you
so strong that we might withstand the things of this world that
desire to stand between us and your love. We pray these things
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

COMPLEMENTARY READING

Psalm 91:1-12

1You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, **2** will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.”

3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the hunter and from the deadly pestilence; **4** he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and defense. **5** You will not fear the terror of the night or the arrow that flies by day **6** or the pestilence that stalks in darkness or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. **8** You will only look with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.

9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, **10** no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.

11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you

in all your ways. **12** On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

READING

Matthew 4:1-17

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. 3 The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." 4 But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'

7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, 9 and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'

11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. 13 He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, 14 so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

15 “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—16 the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” 17 From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Testing, Testing... 1,2,3...*

Pastor Amy Heinz

HYMN OF THE DAY

“When We Are Tested”

ACS 922

BAPTISM

Oliver Juan Ochoa

BAPTISMAL HYMN

“Baptized and Set Free”

Hymn 453 vs 1, 4

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

A brief silence.

O Triune God, grant us your gracious, guiding presence as we enter the new year. As we join Christians of every time who have awaited Jesus' return, lead us into this new time, confident that your promises will be fulfilled. Hear us, O God:

Your mercy is great.

Spirit of Truth, call us to repentance in this new year. Forgive us for past unfaithfulness, silence in the face of injustice, and inaction amid suffering. Move us from the desire to hoard our wealth toward faithful stewardship. Help us to share your gifts with those who cry out for daily bread. Hear us, O God:

Your mercy is great.

Prince of Peace, healer, and reconciler, heal the divisions in your Church and among the peoples of the world. As you prayed that we should all be one, give us new visions to enable that unity. Be with us on our ecumenical journey, and with those sisters and brothers who surround us in the great cloud of witnesses. Hear us, O God:

Your mercy is great.

God of all ages, release us from fear. Lead us forward, even as you have led your Church forward from an empty cross and tomb through millennia. Be our companion as we walk unexplored paths into an unknown future. Open us to new possibilities. Renew our hope. Grant us faith to move ahead. Be our companion until Jesus comes again. In his name, we pray.

Amen.**

We Share the Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring” ELW 691 vs.
1

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Faithful God,

We look back on the year behind us and appreciate your presence with us through it. In this new year, grant that we may become more faithful, more committed to your kingdom work, more knowledgeable of your ways, more familiar with your spirit, more yielding to your instruction, and more willing to give of ourselves for others.

Accept our tithes and offerings this day as an act of faith and of worship.

In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 154

“*I Come with Joy*”

ELW 482

“*I Received the Living God*”

ELW 477

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We Serve the World in God's Name

BENEDICTION

May the God who gave us the past year and the Savior who walked at our side each day and the Spirit who filled us with life abundant, grace this new year with peace ✝ and hope and joy.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG *"O Jesus, I Have Promised"* **ELW 810 vs. 1, 4**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Notes, Prayers, and Thoughts

Zion Lutheran Church

Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

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