

FIRST SUNDAY in ADVENT
November 29, 2020
10:30 am

Zion Lutheran Church
1400 South Duluth Avenue
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105

www.zionlutheransf.com

 **Zion Lutheran Sioux Falls**

AS WE GATHER

Although we pray that God “would rend the heavens and come down” (Is. 64:1), that He would take vengeance against our enemies, we ourselves “have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment” (Is. 64:6). We have continued in our sins for “a long time, and shall we be saved?” (Is. 64:5). Yet, the Lord does not punish us in anger. He comes in voluntary meekness and humility to save us by His grace. By His ministry of the Gospel, we are “enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge,” and so He will “sustain you to the end” (1 Cor. 1:5, 8). Although “heaven and earth will pass away,” His words “will not pass away” (Mark 13:31). As He sends disciples to call us to Himself in the fellowship of His Church, so will He “send out the angels” to gather us and all of His elect “from the ends of the earth” to Himself in heaven forever (Mark 13:27).

OPENING PRAISE SONG: “Start A Fire” Unspoken

Verse 1

This world can be cold and bitter Feels like we're in the dead of winter
Waiting on something better But am I really gonna hide forever?
Over and over again I hear Your voice in my head
Let Your light shine, let Your light shine for all to see

Chorus

Start a fire in my soul Fan the flame and make it grow
So there's no doubt or denying Let it burn so brightly
That everyone around can see
That it's You, that it's You that we need to start a fire in me

Verse 2

You only need a spark to start a whole blaze It only takes a little faith
Let it start right here in this city So these old walls will never be the same
Over and over again I hear Your voice in my head
They need to know I need to go
Spirit won't you fall on my heart now

Chorus

Start a fire in my soul Fan the flame and make it grow
So there's no doubt or denying Let it burn so brightly
That everyone around can see
That it's You, that it's You that we need to start a fire in me

You are the fire You are the flame You are the light on the darkest day
We have the hope, we bear Your name
We carry the news that You have come to save Only You can save

Chorus

Start a fire in my soul Fan the flame and make it grow
So there's no doubt or denying Let it burn so brightly
That everyone around can see
That it's You, that it's You that we need to start a fire in me

You are the fire You are the flame You are the light on the darkest day
Yeah, start a fire in me

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

LIGHTING the ADVENT CANDLE

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

People: the light no darkness can overcome.

Pastor: Let Your light scatter the darkness

People: and illumine Your Church.

Pastor: We light the Advent candle And wait for Christ to come.

With hope, we trust the promise That He will bring us home.

Our hope is in our Savior Who wins for us God's favor.

We wait with growing light Till God makes all things right!

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

People: the light no darkness can overcome.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Pastor: We come humbly before You, O Lord, recognizing that we have not always responded to Your grace in faithfulness and obedience. Often we feel we deserve more or better, forgetting and rejecting Your Word and Your works of salvation.

People: At times, we are lured by the world's deceptions, consumed by greed, passion, and desire. We fail to be thoroughly grounded in Your Word. Forgive us, dear Lord, for rejoicing in the temporal treasures on earth instead of the eternal treasures of heaven.

Pastor: We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

People: Forgive my impatience and my neglect. By Your Spirit, lead me to greater faith, obedience, service, and repentance until Your call to eternal glory comes.

Pastor: Our Lord invites us to come and see what He has done—He has given us solid promises that guard our faith in days of sorrow, suffering, confusion, conflict, and pain.

He has sent His Son to be the Word of life. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and through the work of our Savior Jesus Christ, all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

PRAISE SONG: "God With Us" All Sons and Daughters

Verse 1

You have come To bring peace To be love To be nearer to us
You have come To bring life To be light To shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Chorus

Our Deliverer You are Savior In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything Our redemption God with us You are God with us

Verse 2

You have come To be hope To this world For Your honor and name
Oh You've come To take sin To bear shame And to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Chorus

Our Deliverer You are Savior In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything Our redemption God with us You are God with us

Bridge

You are here You are holy We are standing In Your glory
You are here You are holy We are standing In Your glory
You are here You are holy We are standing In Your glory
You are here You are holy We are standing In Your glory Lord

Chorus

Our Deliverer You are Savior In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything Our redemption God with us You are God with us

Chorus

Our Deliverer You are Savior In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything Our redemption God with us You are God with us

Oh God with us, You are God with us

The First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and have given us over to our sins. Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be angry beyond measure, Lord; do not remember our sins forever. Oh, look on us, we pray, for we are all your people.

Here ends the Reading.

The Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Here ends the Reading.

Please rise out of respect for the words and ministry of Jesus Christ.

The Holy Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

“But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning— lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

Here ends the Reading

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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.

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

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

SPECIAL MUSIC

DISMISSAL of the COMMUNICANTS

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "Because He Lives" Matt Maher

Verse 1

I believe in the Son I believe in the risen One
I believe I overcome By the power of His blood

Chorus

Amen, Amen I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends Because He lives

Verse 2

I was dead in the grave I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name He rolled the stone away

Chorus

Amen, Amen I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends Because He lives

Bridge

I can face tomorrow Because He lives
Every fear is gone I know He holds my life my future in His hands

End Chorus

Amen, Amen I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends

Amen, Amen I'm alive, I'm alive
Because He lives Amen, Amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
Because He lives Because He lives

SEND OFF

Leader: At Zion Lutheran we are committed to reaching out, strengthening the saved,
All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!