

KING’S ARRIVAL
Anticipation: Preparing for the King
November 30, 2025 – 10:30 am

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

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AS WE GATHER

Advent is the season of holy anticipation. Christ arrives in three ways: He came in humility at Bethlehem, He comes now in Word and Sacrament, and He will come again in glory. Each week we live in eager expectation, moved to sing with the shepherds and the saints: Behold your King’s arrival, rich with grace on grace! Today, ANTICIPATION: PREPARING FOR THE KING: Advent begins in longing. God stirs our anticipation with promises of comfort, a voice crying in the wilderness, and the pledge of a coming King.

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 REGISTER ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREET ONE ANOTHER

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

LIGHTING of the ADVENT WREATH

Pastor: Typically, Christians will light 4 candles during advent in their churches and in their homes as we approach Christmas. Many Christians associate these candles with Love, Peace, Joy, and Hope as we add a candle each week as a sign of our growing

anticipation. This year we’re going to focus first on HOPE as it relates to our anticipation and preparation.

We light the candle of HOPE today, as we prepare for and anticipate the King.

People: “And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you.”

Pastor: “Hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”

People: “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.”

Pastor: “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor: Friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Pastor: Since we are justified by faith,

People: we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Pastor: through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand;

People: and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,”

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Pastor: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we confess to you that by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed.

Therefore, we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Most merciful God, you have given your only Son to die for us. Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By your Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of you and your will, and make us obedient to your word, so that by your grace we may come to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained Servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray together.

All: "Loving God, as we light the first Advent candle of hope, we ask for your presence to fill our hearts and homes. May the hope of Christ's coming bring light to our darkness and renew our spirits. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

BAPTISM Franklin William Scott

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.

PRAISE SONG “Give Me Jesus” © Jeremy Camp

Verse 1

In the morning, when I rise In the morning, when I rise
In the morning, when I rise Just give me Jesus

Chorus

Give me Jesus. Give me Jesus,
You can have all this world, Just give me Jesus.

Verse 2

When I am alone, Oh when I am alone,
Oh when I am alone, Just give me Jesus.

Chorus

Give me Jesus. Give me Jesus,
You can have all this world, Just give me Jesus.

Verse 3

When I come to die, Oh when I come to die,
Oh when I come to die, Just give me Jesus.

End Chorus

Give me Jesus Give me Jesus
You can have all this world, You can have all this world,
You can have all this world, Just give me Jesus.

TIME IN THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins. A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” A voice says, “Cry out.” And I said, “What shall I cry?” “All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.” You who bring good news to

Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, “Here is your God!” See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Here ends the Reading.

EPISTLE READING: 2 Peter 3:8-14

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

Here ends the Reading.

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1:5-25

In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord’s commands and decrees blamelessly. But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old. Once when Zechariah’s division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside. Then an angel of the

Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man, and my wife is well along in years.” The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.” Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak. When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. “The Lord has done this for me,” she said. “In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

OFFERING | TREASURE BOX

OFFERING SONG “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”
Words by Charles Wesley | Music by Rowland Hugh Prichard

Verse 1

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart

Verse 2

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Verse 2

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

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 OUR LORD

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

COMMUNION SONG Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson Song # 7121852

Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my Redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Savior He will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need His power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 3

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me

(Repeat)

Ending

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me Yet not I but through Christ in me

COMMUNION SONG “God With Us” All Sons and Daughters

Verse 1

Oh You’ve 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

Oh You’ve 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

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

DISMISSAL of the COMMUNICANTS

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: “Rescuer” Rend Collective

Chorus

He's our Rescuer He's our Rescuer We are free from sin forevermore
Oh how sweet the sound Oh how grace abounds
We will praise the Lord our Rescuer

Verse 1

There is good news for the captive Good news for the shamed
There is good news for the one who walked away
There is good news for the doubter The one religion failed
For the good Lord has come to seek and save

Chorus

He's our Rescuer He's our Rescuer We are free from sin forevermore
Oh how sweet the sound Oh how grace abounds
We will praise the Lord our Rescuer

Verse 2

He is beauty for the blind man Riches for the poor
He is friendship for the one the world ignores
He is pasture for the weary Rest for those who strive
Oh the good Lord is the way the truth the life
Yes the good Lord is the way the truth the life

Chorus

He's our Rescuer He's our Rescuer We are free from sin forevermore
Oh how sweet the sound Oh how grace abounds
We will praise the Lord our Rescuer

Bridge

So come and be chainless Come and be fearless
Come to the foot of Calvary
There is redemption for every affliction
Here at the foot of Calvary

(Repeat Bridge)

End Chorus

He's our Rescuer He's our Rescuer We are free from sin forevermore
Oh how sweet the sound Oh how grace abounds
We will praise the Lord our Rescuer We will praise the Lord our Rescuer

SEND OFF

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