

*welcome to*



January 10 & 11, 2026

**To better know & show Christ's Love.**

**Practice of Holy Communion**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because Holy Communion is a confession of faith, which is confessed at this altar, we request that only those who are members at Zion or another LCMS congregation take part today. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about this. The center of the tray holds non-alcoholic wine. If you would like the option of a gluten free wafer, please let pastor know before the service.

**In memory of** Alva Foor \$100 was given to the school, \$20 to the Maintenance Fund, and \$200 to Zion's Annual Fund.

**Save the date!** VBS 2026 "Rainforest Falls" will be June 21-25.

**February/March Messenger** articles are due Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Santa Store Requests:** Organizations that would like to request grant funds from the Santa Store should fill out a request form from the office and return it **to the office by Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

## Serving this Weekend

### **Church attendance last weekend:**

Saturday: 72 C: 65

Sunday: 155 C: 106

The average weekly giving for December was \$12,138.09. Average weekly giving for 2025/26 fiscal YTD: \$13,532.89. The average weekly need for 2025-26 budget is: \$13,750.00.

430 members attended church in December.

### **Serving today:**

- Altar Guild: Lynn Leinberger
- Organist: Amanda Koch
- Saturday Elders: Charles Smith & Troy Sova
- Ushers: Sandy & Susan Westphal, Katherine Hilbrandt
- Sunday Elders: Randy Hebel & Chris List
- Ushers: Anna & Jerry Diener, Graham Varner, Henry Menz

**Sunday Morning Bible Study:** Please join us for a closer look at the week's Bible lessons we hear in church. We meet for Bible study after church in the cafeteria to grow in our faith!

**Sunday School:** "Ephphatha . . . be opened" (Mark 7:34), Jesus says to a deaf man as He places His fingers in the man's ears and touches his tongue in this week's lesson, "A Hearing Aide." The man's ears open and his tongue releases, but Jesus warns the crowd not to tell anyone. The good news cannot be contained, however, and those who witness the miracle share the story. Discuss, "How can we share the Good News with our friends and family?"

**Retable flower chart:** There is a new flower chart posted to place flowers in the church on any particular weekend in 2026.

**Altar Guild:** Lynn Leinberger is looking for a couple ladies to join the Altar Guild. This is only a one-month commitment. Altar Guild ladies prepare our church for worship by setting up for communion and/or changing banners as needed. Please reach out to Lynn at 989-662-2545 with any questions and/or your interest. Thank you.

**Wax Ornaments:** Lynn Leinberger creates wax ornaments that are gifted to the congregation each Christmas. If you have broken ones or would like any that you missed since 2014, contact Lynn at 989-662-2545. She would be happy to replace any of them.

**God bless our quilting ladies:** I would like to recognize the hard work of the quilters that work diligently making quilts and preparing baby care kits that are so graciously donated to Lutheran World Relief. These people include Deb Shufelt, Gail Wegener, Alice & Tom Kozuch, Mary & Terry Maul, Elaine Sollner, Loretta Kullick, Mary Jo Gorgol, Ardith Chapman, Darlene Pugsley, Shirley Atton, Shirley Gerstacker, Jan Schultz, Carol Westphal, Mary Ann Koch, Eileen Kaiser, Marilyn Wiedyk, Ross Koch, and Dani Fisk. God bless your hearts, Diane (Kozuch) Fisk.

**Super Bowl Sunday Bowling:** We had so much fun last year, we're doing it again! Join your brothers and sisters in Christ for some bowling fun and fellowship on **Super Bowl Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at **1:00PM** at Northern Lanes in Stanford. Thrivent grants will cover the cost for 8 lanes for two hours as well as some "pizza pins" and water. Shoes are on your own for \$2.50. Please RSVP on the sheet in the narthex or call the church office. We should have room for 35 people. All are welcome. Hosted by the Men's Club.

**Church Camp:** You can still join us for Church Camp at Groveland Oak County Park in Holly, MI, July 22-28. Consider joining us for all six nights or any time during July 22-28. Meals are planned for Friday-Sunday and potlucks on the other days. A few fun new activities are also being planned for all ages. For reservations or questions please call Gail Wegener (989-415-8170) or Gary Koch (989-205-1958). Camp letters will be mailed mid-February or early March with details and cost.

**Death Notice:** God has called home to himself a loving father, grandfather, brother, uncle, & friend, Theodore "Ted" Kaiser. Funeral service for Ted was Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.

**A firm foundation. Life preparation. And a place to belong.** Come take a **Peek at Valley Lutheran** this January! Any and all interested families are invited to join us for a one-hour experience showcasing what VL is all about on **Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00PM**. Whether you're planning ahead for your child's future, or high school is right around the corner - this night is for you! Please let us know you're coming and choose an arrival time at [www.vlhs.com/takeapeek](http://www.vlhs.com/takeapeek). Any questions can be directed to Amy Cooper, at [acooper@vlhs.com](mailto:acooper@vlhs.com).

**Did you know....?** Opportunities for connection abound at Valley Lutheran. There are over 50 athletic teams and extra-curricular activities - where students identify passions, grow in skills, and embrace leadership. 20 family groups provide small group interactions, Bible study, and intentional mentoring. And 1 student body, built on a foundation of faith, unifies it all. It's clear, VL students belong.

**Grade School Night at Charger Basketball** is **Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>** and your family is invited! Women's game starts at 5:30PM, Men's game at 7:00PM. Grade school students receive a pom-pom (while supplies last) and a coupon for free popcorn! They are also invited to enter a drawing for free swag and participate in a halftime game. Students in grade school attire receive free admission (other tickets can be purchased for \$7 at the door or at [www.vlhs.com/tickets](http://www.vlhs.com/tickets) - or bring a VL Event Pass if you have one!). Join us for a night of fun and basketball. Let's go, Chargers!

Calendar of Events

Sat	10	Worship w/communion 5:30 PM
Sun	11	Worship w/communion 9:00 AM Family Bible Hour 10:15 AM
Mon	12	Council meeting 6:30 PM
Tues	13	Band Concert hosted by Zion 7:00 PM
Wed	14	A-basketball games @St John Midland 4:30 PM
Thurs	15	A-basketball games @St Michael's Richville 4:30PM
Fri	16	Paint w/Julie List 6:30 PM
Sat	17	Worship 5:30 PM
Sun	18	Worship 9:00 AM Family Bible Hour 10:15 AM

This Friday!



WINTER THEMED  
*Painting*  
on canvas  
*Workshop*

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 16**

**6:30 PM**

**ZION'S CAFETERIA**

**MATERIALS  
PROVIDED**

**\$30.00 PER PERSON**

*Questions?*

Contact Julie List  
989.225.6802



Proceeds go toward the  
Cambodia Mission Trip

*See you there!*

Please RSVP to Zion office  
989.662.4264





Please join us for a night of

# FELLOWSHIP & FUNDRAISING

*Entertainment by Twilight Tunes  
Duelling Pianos*

.....  
JANUARY

.....  
**30**  
.....

.....  
6:00 PM  
.....

\$50 per person for a catered dinner. There will be a cash bar available. Venmo @Mallorie-bender-1 or, cash or check made payable to: Zion Lutheran Church, Auburn; note TEAM in the memo line, can be sent into the office.

*Beaver Community Hall  
545 W Parish Rd, Kawkawlin*

Silent and live auction proceeds to benefit  
nature education at Zion Lutheran School



Tickets are ready and available in the office at the school.

## **Pastors**

Andrew Menz 989-513-0197 Email: [andrewmenz@gmail.com](mailto:andrewmenz@gmail.com)  
Seth Hemme 989-600-5343 Email: [pastorhemme@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorhemme@yahoo.com)  
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**The Baptism of Our Lord**  
**January 10 & 11 2026**  
**Divine Service Setting Four**  
**Page 203 in Lutheran Service Book**

**Greeting Time**

*Those in attendance are invited to greet those seated near them. As the bell rings, please return to your seat for the opening hymn.*

**Ringling of the Bell**

♪ **“God Himself Is Present”**

**LSB 907**

**1 God Himself is present:  
Let us now adore Him  
And with awe appear before Him.  
God is in His temple;  
All within keep silence;  
Humbly kneel in deepest rev’rence.  
He alone  
On His throne  
Is our God and Savior;  
Praise His name forever!**

**2 God Himself is present:  
Hear the harps resounding;  
See the hosts the throne surrounding.  
“Holy, holy, holy!”  
Hear the hymn ascending,  
Songs of saints and angels blending.  
Bow Your ear  
To us here:  
Hear, O Christ, the praises  
That Your Church now raises.**

**3 Fount of ev’ry blessing,  
Purify my spirit,  
Trusting only in Your merit.  
Like the holy angels,  
Worshiping before You,  
May I ceaselessly adore You.  
Let Your will  
Ever still  
Rule Your Church terrestrial  
As the hosts celestial.**

Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697–1769, abr.; tr. Frederick W. Foster, 1760–1835, alt.; tr. John Miller, 1756–90, alt.  
Text: Public domain

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.  
**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.  
**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

### Service of the Word

#### Introit

*Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a*

**P** Behold my servant, whom I uphold,

**C** **my chosen, in whom my soul delights.**

**P** I will tell of the decree:

**C** **The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.**

**P** Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,

**C** **and the ends of the earth your possession.**

**P** You shall break them with a rod of iron

**C** **and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”**

**P** Now therefore, O kings, be wise;

**C** **be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

**P** Serve the LORD with fear,

**C** **and rejoice with trembling,**

**P** for his wrath is quickly kindled.

**C** **Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.**

**C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** Behold my servant, whom I uphold,

**C** **my chosen, in whom my soul delights.**

#### Kyrie

*LSB 204*

♪ **C** **Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

**1** To God on high be glory  
 And peace to all the earth;  
 Goodwill from God in heaven  
 Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
 We praise and bless You, Father;  
 Your holy name, we sing—  
 Our thanks for Your great glory,  
 Lord God, our heav'nly King.

**2** To You, O sole-begotten,  
 The Father's Son, we pray;  
 O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
 You take our sins away.  
 Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
 Receive our heartfelt cry,  
 Where You in pow'r are seated  
 At God's right hand on high—

**3** For You alone are holy;  
 You only are the Lord.  
 Forever and forever,  
 Be worshiped and adored;  
 You with the Holy Spirit  
 Alone are Lord Most High,  
 In God the Father's glory.  
 "Amen!" our glad reply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 42:1–9*

<sup>1</sup>Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,

<sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup>I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

<sup>9</sup>Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

*Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

### Epistle

*Romans 6:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Alleluia and Verse

♪ **C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 3:13–17*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

♪ "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"

LSB 405

- 1 To Jordan's river came our Lord,  
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,  
The God from God, the Light from Light,  
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.
- 2 The Savior came to be baptized—  
The Son of God in flesh disguised—  
To stand beneath the Father's will  
And all His righteousness fulfill.
- 3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood  
And John baptized the Lamb of God,  
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,  
Descended on Him from above.

- 4 Then from God's throne with thund'rous sound  
Came God's own voice with words profound:  
"This is My Son," was His decree,  
"The one I love, who pleases Me."**
- 5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight  
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall  
To save the world and free us all.**
- 6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
This man is Christ, our substitute!  
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,  
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**

Text: James P. Tiefel, 1949, alt.

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## **Sermon**

*Stand*

## **Prayers of the Church**

- For Sally Goodsell (sister to Esther Gerzeski), Roxanne and Sergii Boilore (daughter and grandson to Esther Gerzeski), Tamala Marks, Austin Huebner and family, Marcy Palmiter (sister-in-law of Nigel & Alyssa Palmiter), Lee Davis, Martin Sherman (brother to Augusta Etelamaki), Lori Peters, John Kohn, Valerie Walter, Susan Mumma (niece of Alan & Sheryl Brown), Randy Davenport, Calvin Mejia (grandson of Megan & David Allen), Diana Mansfield (daughter of Ed & Augusta Etelamaki), Ron Murphy, Polly Oates (sister of Ed Etelamaki), Diana Hebel, Kathy Dowd (friend of Eileen Rosenbrock), Joyce Gehringer, Mel Garchow, Herb Leinberger, Sharon Staudacher, Dan Short, Deb Jean Strawn, Don Strawn, Bryan & Tracy Corbat, Freddie Dore, John Bartys, Wheston Behmlander (nephew of Deb Shufelt), Mary Lou Jammer, Meta Hyatt, Tammy & Hannah Bolesky, Terry Maul, and Larry Schember.
- For those that mourn, especially the family of Ted Kaiser, Sr.
- For Zion's staff and students.
- For Zion's Call Committee.
- For all who serve this country, here and beyond our borders.
- For those suffering with mental illness and for their loved ones.
- For peace in all war-torn countries.

*Sit*

**Offering-** To give online, go to [zionauburn.com](http://zionauburn.com) and click on the "Donate" tab.

*(At this time, we ask that members as well as guests sign the pew book.)*

## Stewardship Verse

**Psalm 29:1** “Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.”

*Stand*

Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

*LSB 208*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 208*

♪ **C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✝}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✝}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 210

**1** O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

**2** O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*Sit*

## Distribution Hymns

**1** "God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"

LSB 594

**1** God's own child, I gladly say it:  
I am baptized into Christ!  
He, because I could not pay it,  
Gave my full redemption price.  
Do I need earth's treasures many?  
I have one worth more than any  
That brought me salvation free  
Lasting to eternity!

**2** Sin, disturb my soul no longer:  
I am baptized into Christ!  
I have comfort even stronger:  
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.  
Should a guilty conscience seize me  
Since my Baptism did release me  
In a dear forgiving flood,  
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:  
I am baptized into Christ!  
Drop your ugly accusation,  
I am not so soon enticed.  
Now that to the font I've traveled,  
All your might has come unraveled,  
And, against your tyranny,  
God, my Lord, unites with me!**
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:  
I am baptized into Christ!  
When I die, I leave all sadness  
To inherit paradise!  
Though I lie in dust and ashes  
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:  
Baptism has the strength divine  
To make life immortal mine.**

- 5 There is nothing worth comparing  
To this lifelong comfort sure!  
Open-eyed my grave is staring:  
Even there I'll sleep secure.  
Though my flesh awaits its raising,  
Still my soul continues praising:  
I am baptized into Christ;  
I'm a child of paradise!**

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957  
Text: © 1991 Robert E. Voelker. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002409

♪ **“O Lord, We Praise Thee”**

**LSB 617**

- 1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,  
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.  
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish  
Our weak souls that they may flourish:  
O Lord, have mercy!  
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,  
That our sins and sorrows did carry,  
And Thy blood for us plead  
In all trial, fear, and need:  
O Lord, have mercy!**
- 2 Thy holy body into death was given,  
Life to win for us in heaven.  
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;  
May this feast thereof remind us!  
O Lord, have mercy!  
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee  
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.  
All our debt Thou hast paid;  
Peace with God once more is made:  
O Lord, have mercy!**

**3** May God bestow on us His grace and favor  
That we follow Christ our Savior  
And live together here in love and union  
Nor despise this blest Communion!  
O Lord, have mercy!  
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;  
Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;  
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see  
Days of peace and unity:  
O Lord, have mercy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2–3): Martin Luther, 1483–1546  
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*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

*LSB 211*

**1** O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.

**2** All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.

**Post-Communion Collect**

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Benedicamus**

*LSB 212*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

♪ "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus. *Refrain***

*Refrain:* In Him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father. *Refrain***
- 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain***

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934–2025

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**Acknowledgments**

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**Next weekend's readings:** Isaiah 49:1-7, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, & John 1:29-42a