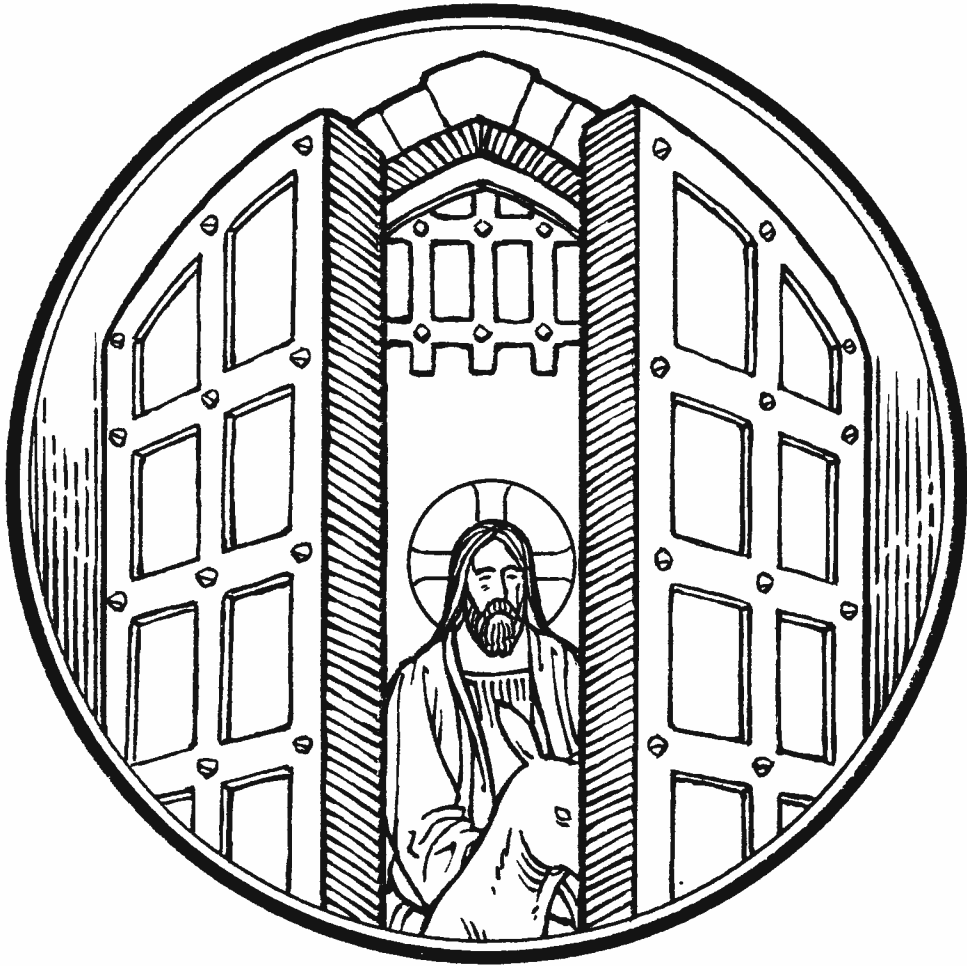


Ad Te Levavi
The First Sunday in Advent
3 December A†D 2023



*“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”*
Matthew 21:5

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
TOMBALL, TEXAS



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
907 Hicks St. • Tomball, TX 77375

Church Office: (281) 351-5757
Church Email: zion@ziontomballtx.org
Website: www.ziontomballtx.org

Vacant
Senior Pastor
*Contact the church office
for assistance.*

Lynea Sander
Kantor/Organist
(832) 722-3170
lynealeia@gmail.com

Robin Arnold
Volunteer Office Manager
(281) 351-5757
zion@ziontomballtx.org

Welcome to Zion! If this is your first time with us, here are a few tips to assist you:

- Large print bulletins including the entire order of worship and hymn texts are available upon request.
- Children's coloring bags are available for ages 6 and under upon request.
- If you are unfamiliar with liturgical worship, please see the laminated booklet in the hymnal rack, which explains our liturgy and its origins in Scripture.
- Children are encouraged to attend the service with their families, but a nursery with a changing area is provided in the narthex if you need to step out briefly. The service can be heard in this room.
- Individual pew cushions are available in the narthex.

Communion policy: At Zion Lutheran Church, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is celebrated in accordance with the Holy Scriptures that tell us Christ's same body and blood given and shed on the cross is what we receive in, with, and under the bread and wine. This divine mystery is given for us that we may have what Christ's own words declare: forgiveness. If you agree with this view as the clear teaching on Holy Scripture and are a communicant member of an LCMS church, you are welcome to join us in today's celebration of the Lord's Supper. If you are not an LCMS communicant member and time permits, **please speak with the pastor prior to the service concerning your communing during the service.** Otherwise, we ask you to refrain from communing with us at this time for your own protection. As Saint Paul says, "He who does not discern the body rightly, eats and drinks judgment to himself," (1 Cor. 11:29). You are, however, invited to speak with the pastor after the service (or anytime at your convenience) regarding our practice and your desire to commune at this altar in the future.

Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Morning – 9:30 AM

- Adult Class – Led by the Pastor (Family Center Gym)
- ChristLight Sunday School – Toddlers ages 2–4 (F102 downstairs); Kindergarten–8th grade (upstairs classrooms). **All children meet upstairs** in the Music Room for an opening devotion.

Ad Te Levavi

The First Sunday in Advent

3 December A-D 2023

Divine Service Setting 3

LSB 184

Stand and face the processional cross when the processional hymn begins.

Processional Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

LSB 357

Confession and Absolution

LSB 184

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 25:4–5, 21–22; antiphon: vv. 1–3a



To you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.*

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.*

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*

teach me | your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my sal- | vation;*

for you I wait all the | day long.

May integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me,*

for I | wait for you.

Redeem Israel, | O God,*

out of all his | troubles.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

To you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.*

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.*

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

Kyrie

LSB 186



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament

Jeremiah 23:5–8

⁵“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

⁷“Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when they shall no longer say, ‘As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ ⁸but ‘As the LORD lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their own land.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 25:3–4

None who wait for you shall be | put to shame; *
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.
Make me to know your ways, | O LORD; *
teach me | your paths.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand and face the processional cross as it is carried to the center of the nave for the Gospel reading.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 190; Psalm 85:7



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

L Show us your steadfast | love, O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion,
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.””

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Turn to face the processional cross as it is carried back to its place.

Nicene Creed

LSB 191

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

Hymn of the Day

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

LSB 332

Sermon

Rev. Dale Brynestad

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sit

Hymn

“Once He Came in Blessing”

LSB 333

Hymn of the Month

Offerings may be placed in the plate located near the reception desk in the narthex.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

LSB 215

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

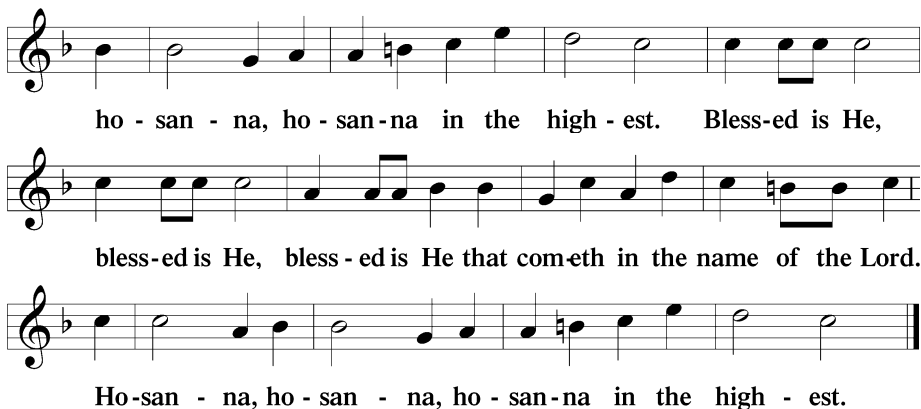
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God ... with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- 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

LSB 197

- 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 ✠ 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 ✠ 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

LSB 197



- P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



- C** A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

If you are a visitor, please see our communion policy on the inside cover of the bulletin.

Distribution

“Lift Up Your Heads, You Everlasting Doors”

LSB 339

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

LSB 343

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

LSB 516

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

LSB 341

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A 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 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 A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



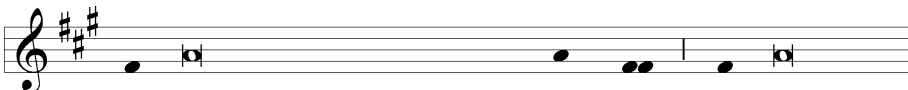
A Bless we the Lord.



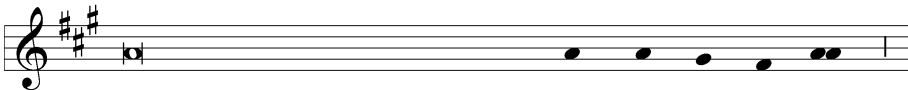
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

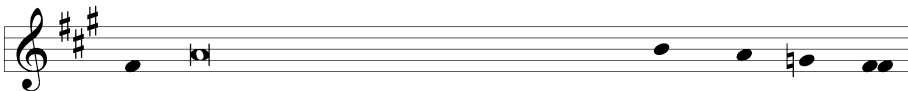
LSB 202



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



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Please turn to face the processional cross as it moves through the nave during the closing hymn. Once the cross exits the nave, you may turn to face the front.

Closing Hymn

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

LSB 334



Serving Today – December 3, 2023

Elders	Ernie Hamann and Jon Schulz	
	8:00 AM	10:45 AM
Ushers	Ronald Luedke Caleb Copeland	John Seber Daniel Jaeger
Acolytes	Luke Sander Brayden Busa	Owen Krist Erich Schulz
Crucifers	James Damron	Volunteer
Interpreter for the deaf		Chris Hamilton
Altar Guild	Tahnee Stall and Erika Spannagel	
Counters	Chris Finley	

News and Announcements

Guest Pastor: Thank you to Rev. Dale Brynestad for serving the gifts of Jesus to us today! Pastor Brynestad recently retired from full time ministry. He and his wife Julee live in New Braunfels.

Vacancy Update: Zion currently has no called pastor. We are undergoing a process to call a Vacancy Pastor who will temporarily serve Zion while we search for and call a Senior Pastor. We are currently being served by pastors willing to provide “pulpit supply” (substitute pastor). If you have need of pastoral care, please contact the church office and they will route your request to the appropriate person. Please keep the call committees in your prayers as well as Zion and her members as we await the pastor the Lord has planned for us. If you have any questions, please contact your elder.

No Midweek Bible Class or Midweek Advent Services: The Wednesday morning Bible class and midweek Advent services are suspended for the time being while we search for a vacancy pastor and assess his availability.

Prayer List Updates: We will be doing our annual Advent cleaning of the prayer list soon. **If you would like your loved one(s) to remain on the list, please contact the church office** no later than December 17 – zion@ziontomballtx.org or (281) 351-5757.

Special Voters' Meeting for Elections and 2024 Budget – Due to a scheduling conflict with a wedding reception on December 3rd, the special voters' meeting for elections and 2024 budget is re-scheduled for Sunday, December 10th.

Vacancy Call Committee: We have received the names of several pastors from Texas District via our Circuit Visitor Rev. Gene Johnson to be considered by the Vacancy Call Committee. At this time, any communicant member is entitled to submit nominations of pastors to be considered by the Vacancy Call Committee. The deadline for submission of nominations of pastors is next week, Sunday, December 10th, 2023.

Devotions: Starting December 3rd we will be printing the Higher Things daily devotions. They will be available on the table in the narthex.

Sunday School Opening: Beginning December 3, 2023, the Sunday school opening for all children will be located upstairs in the family center music room at 9:30 AM.

THE GATHERING ADVENT CALENDAR

THIS YEAR AGAIN, WE ARE ASKING YOU TO HELP THE LADIES GUILD COLLECT FOOD ITEMS FOR OTHERS AT CHRISTMAS. EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX. EACH SUNDAY BRING THE WEEKS DONATIONS AND ADD TO THE BOXES UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE NARTHEX. OR YOU CAN KEEP YOUR OWN BOX THROUGHOUT ADVENT THEN PUT IT UNDER THE TREE IN THE NARTHEX BY DECEMBER 25. THE LIST OF ITEMS TO COLLECT EACH WEEK IS IN A HANDOUT ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX. THE WEEK AFTER CHRISTMAS WE WILL DONATE THE COLLECTED ITEMS TO THOSE IN NEED IN OUR CONGREGATION AND THE REST WILL GO TO T.E.A.M. ANY QUESTIONS CALL SUE FOEHNER AT 713-962-1629 OR KAREN PABOR AT 832-418-0867.

Reconciliation update from the Elders: Prior to the Special Voter's Meeting of 11/5/23, Pastor Ralph Hobratschk was invited to meet with the Board of Elders at their December meeting. Pastor Hobratschk accepted the invitation. Pastor Hobratschk did not meet with Zion's leadership as expected during the Reconciliation Process. The Voter's stipulated that The Reconciliation Process should include Ben Shashack, Paul Pabor, Pastor Chris Hull and Zion's leadership. This was not accomplished. The Board of Elders and Zion's President will meet with Pastor Hobratschk as we have mutually arranged to discuss his findings and suggestions for Zion. After Pastor Hobratschk's failure to fulfil his responsibilities toward Zion the Board feels that it is prudent that he meet with Zion's leadership before the Congregation Forum is scheduled. In addition, it is inappropriate and impractical to schedule a Congregational Forum while the Congregation is saying our Goodbyes to Pastor Hull and his family. Zion's leadership is also busy with the task of providing for Zion's Pastoral care as we enter the vacancy.

Church Officer Directories: Updated directories for all of our church officers and auxiliary offices are now available on the narthex table. The back of the page also lists all new Elder groups. Both the directory and the Elder groups are posted on bulletin boards around campus. Pick up a copy today!

The December monthly handouts are available on the narthex table. Pick up the December church calendar, anniversaries, and duty calendar.

This Week at Zion

Today – 12/3	Divine Service.....	8:00 AM
	Sunday School / Bible Class.....	9:30 AM
	Divine Service.....	10:45 AM
Wednesday –12/6	Senior Youth Night.....	6:30 PM
Thursday – 12/7	Handbell Choir.....	5:30 PM
	Adult Choir.....	6:30 PM
Friday – 12/8	Sew and Sews.....	9:30 AM
Sunday – 12/10	Divine Service.....	8:00 AM
	Sunday School / Bible Class.....	9:30 AM
	Divine Service.....	10:45 AM

Last Week – November 26, 2023

Offerings

Fund	Last Week	Year To Date
General Fund Offerings	7,981	397,768
General Fund Budget	9,090	439,320
Difference	(1,109)	(41,552)
Missions	25	511
Church Improvement Fund	100	18,320
	24,896	38,389

Attendance

Sunday

8:00 AM: 118

10:45 AM: 94

Next Week – December 10, 2023

Second Sunday in Advent

Readings: Malachi 4:1-6, Romans 15:4-13, Luke 21:25-36

Hymns: 355, 333, 514, 336