

The First Sunday of Christmas

31 December A†D 2023



*[Simeon] took [Jesus] up in his arms and blessed God and said,
“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word...”*

Luke 2:28-29

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.*

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.

The First Sunday of Christmas

31 December A-†D 2023

Divine Service Setting 3

LSB 184

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

Processional Hymn

“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”

LSB 386

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 93:1, 3–4; antiphon: vv. 5, 2



Your decrees are very | trustworthy;*
 holiness befits your house, O LORD, for- | evermore.
 Your throne is established | from of old;*
 you are from ever- | lasting.
The LORD reigns; he is robed in | majesty;*
the LORD is robed; he has put on strength | as his belt.
 Yes, the world is es- | tablished;*
 it shall nev- | er be moved.
The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted | up their voice;*
the floods lift up their | roaring.
 Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves | of the sea,*
 the LORD on high is | mighty!
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.
 Your decrees are very | trustworthy;*
 holiness befits your house, O LORD, for- | evermore.
 Your throne is established | from of old;*
 you are from ever- | lasting.

Kyrie

LSB 186



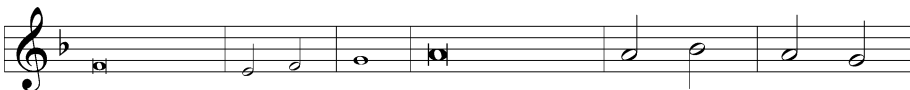
C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



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

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament

Isaiah 11:1–5

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 45:2a, 1b

You are the most handsome of the | sons of men;*
grace is poured up- | on your lips.
I address my verses | to the king;*
my tongue is like the pen of a | ready scribe.

Epistle

Galatians 4:1–7

¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

[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 93:1



[C] Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

[L] The LORD reigns; he is robed in | majesty;
the LORD is robed; he has put on strength | as his belt.



[C] Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22–40

[P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



[C] Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now

29“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
30for my eyes have seen your salvation
31that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
32a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



8

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

“Let All Together Praise Our God”

LSB 389

Sermon

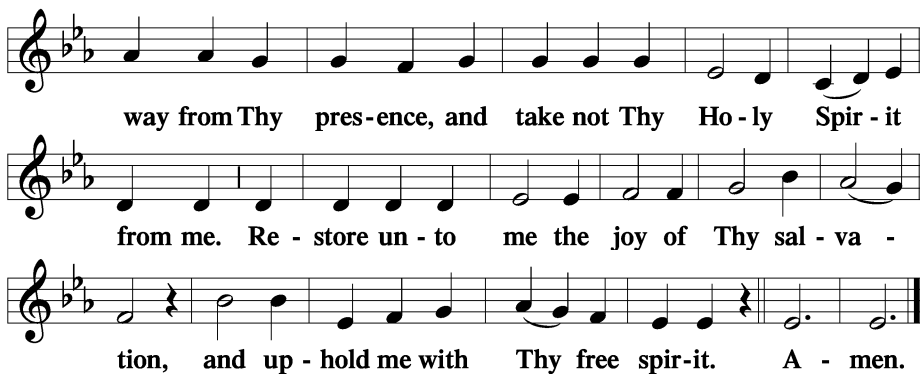
*Rev. Randy Walquist,
 Guest Pastor*

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



Sit

Hymn

“Joy to the World”

LSB 387

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

Stand

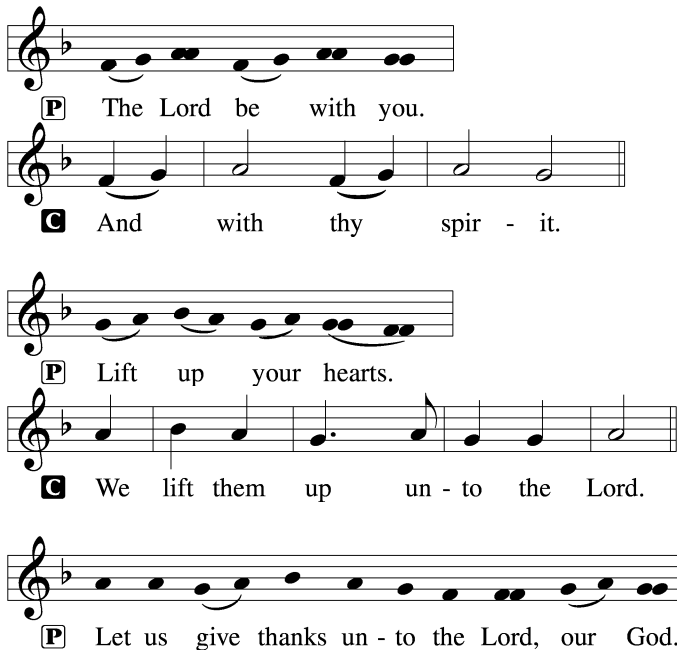
Prayer of the Church

LSB 215

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194





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

“All My Heart Again Rejoices”

LSB 360

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

LSB 367

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”

LSB 375

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379

Stand

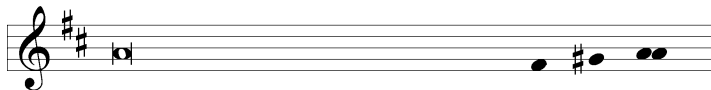
Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

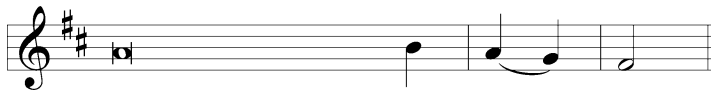
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to 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.



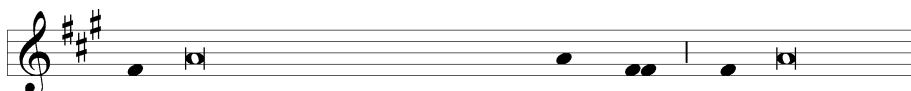
A Bless we the Lord.



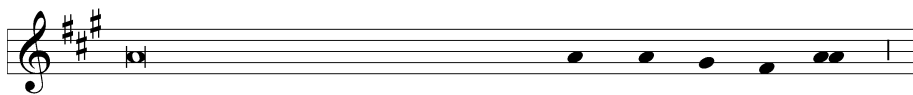
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

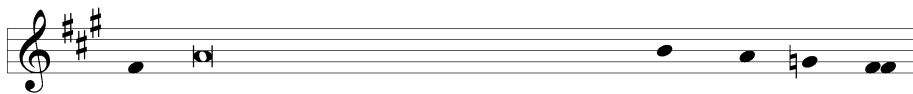
LSB 202



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 Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly”

LSB 897



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Serving Today – December 31

Elders

Volunteers

Ushers

John Seber
Leroy Fehrle

Acolytes

Daniel Huberty
Volunteer

Crucifer

Volunteer

Altar Guild

Volunteers

Counters

Chris Finley

News and Announcements

Guest Pastor and Organist: Thank you to Rev. Randy Walquist for serving us with the Lord’s gifts today, and thank you to Craig Harmann for playing the organ today!

Sunday School: Beginning December 24, 2023 Sunday school is indefinitely suspended due to a lack of teachers.

"The Gathering" our Ladies Guild Advent food drive was a tremendous success. Thanks to all in the congregation who donated food for this mission outreach. First of all, we want to share the food with anyone in the congregation that may be in need. If you know of any individual or family that is trying to make ends meet and could use some help, please let us know. You may contact Sue Foehner, Ladies Guild President as follows: Tel: 713-962-1629 Email: sfoehner@att.net Any food that is not distributed to families in the congregation will be delivered to the food bank at TEAMS (Tomball Emergency Assistance Ministries) for distribution to families in the Tomball community. Thanks again for your participation and generosity.

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.

This Week at Zion

Today – 12/31	Divine Service.....	9:30 AM
Friday – 1/5	Sew and Sews	9:30 AM
Saturday – 1/6	Ladies Guild Meeting	9:30 AM
Sunday – 1/7	Divine Service.....	8:00 AM
	Divine Service.....	10:45 AM

Last Week – December 24

Offerings			Attendance	
Fund	Last Week	Year To Date	<i>Sunday</i>	
General Fund Offerings	10,357	428,083	9:30 AM: 99	
General Fund Budget	9,090	466,836	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
Difference	1,267	(38,753)	4:00 PM: 112	
Missions	0	531	7:00 PM: 73	
Church Improvement Fund	0	19,105	<i>Christmas Day</i>	
	24,896	38,389	10:00 AM: 76	