

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, you have come to your people and set them free. You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David. Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us, to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant. This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship you without fear, holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life. And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way, to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. -Luke 1:68-79

Zechariah's prophecy-song in the beginning of Luke is so beautiful it is the assigned psalm to be sung (or read responsively) for the Second Sunday of Advent coming soon. So since this new church year is the year of Luke for our Gospel lectionary, that means you will get two Lukan readings for the price of one that Sunday! It may be just because I'm a pastor, and I get really excited about these mundane sorts of things, but I think that's better than any Black Friday deal. Luke is an exciting Gospel to read from this new year, because here is an entire book dedicated to showing us how God is not just in some lofty place up in the sky: but tangibly and really present for you! Luke says time and again how God is down here where we need God the most. Or as Zechariah put it: "In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us (not someone else, or someone more holy than us, but us)! God comes to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, (last I checked, that's you and me) and to guide our (yes our) feet into the way of peace." This Advent Season, we wait, and look with twinkling hope toward the turning of the world, and the coming of the baby Jesus. I think one of the lost arts of our time is that of waiting. We tend to fill our idle moments with screens, candy crush, social media scrolling, or any number of other distractions. But we spend not enough time in holy waiting. If you thought it was exciting that we get two Luke readings soon, wait until you get a load of this other thing I'm excited about: historical word origins! If we trace our modern word wait to its etymological roots, it comes from the Proto-Indo-European word *weg* which had the original sense of "to be strong and lively." Which means, waiting, far from some passive emptiness that we should avoid at all costs, is at its root supposed to be full of life and activity! Waiting is supposed to be a place where we gather strength and hold space in our livelihood for those that are to come. So take a pause with me here, despite (and to spite) the chaos of the world, the Omicron Variant and all the tumultuous roaring about us. And let us breathe, and wait. Let us wait in a strong and lively fashion, for God will surely not tarry in guiding our feet into the way of peace.

-Pastor Tommy

New Offering Envelopes are available to night or Sunday morning in Augustana church office Mondays or Wednesdays convenient.



be picked up on Saturday Hall. You can call the from 9-12:00 if that is more

During these uncertain times of COVID, worship continues to be offered weekly. Saturday worship continues each week at 5:00 p.m. in the parking lot. Sunday morning worship is available on Zoom as well as worshipping in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. If you choose to worship in person, please wear a face mask and practice social distancing. Also the Coffee Hour has been suspended. Join us every week for worship in the way you find the safest.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Thank you to everyone who provided the items needed for the Thanksgiving baskets. We were able to fill four baskets for families in need. A special **THANK YOU** to Cindy and Randy Olli for delivering the baskets.

All of the materials have arrived to redo the pew cushions! The work will be done in the new year.



We will have three worship services in the sanctuary this year on Christmas Eve. The first will be at 4:00 pm and will include a Children's Sermon. The second will be at 6:00pm and the last service will be at 7:30pm. Zoom will be available at the 7:30 service. On Saturday, Christmas Day, there will be worship in the parking lot with a camp fire and hot chocolate. On Sunday, December 26 we will have our *Lessons and Carols* service at 10:30 in person and on Zoom.



Thank you very much for your donations to Good Neighbors. It is very much appreciated and will help us to help those in need.
God Bless You!
Good Neighbors Services

We are ordering Poinsettias for Christmas. If you would like to order a plant, please use the form printed in *The Beacon* and gift is "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" special occasion, or if you are making Fund. You can call the office with your church or put it in the locked mailbox. by Monday, December 13th.



note whether your someone, if it is a your gift to the Floral order, mail it to Orders need to be in

The Festival of Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday, December 12th beginning at 3:00 p.m. You may watch the Festival on Zoom (go through Zion's website – click COVID INFO and then Join Our Zoom Worship) or on youtube.

Pastor Tommy is offering an Advent Devotional each Wednesday during Advent at 7:00 p.m. The devotional is available through Zion's Zoom link.

Join us for Bible Study

The Monday night Bible study group will be 4th Mondays in January . Pr. Tommy will be leading our study on the book of John. We will meet in person in Augustana Hall. Be sure to wear your mask and social distance. If you have any questions about this opportunity for study, please contact the office.



meeting at 6:30, the 2nd and leading our study on the

The Circles are continuing their monthly meetings. If you are not a member of a circle and would be interested in joining one, please contact any one of the following ladies for more information:

Sarah Circle—Liz Macklem

Joy Circle—Bonnie Groh

Hope Circle—Sheila Clark

The **Sarah Circle** meets on Mondays at 1:00pm

The **Joy Circle** meets on the second Thursday at 10:00am.

The **Hope Circle** meets on the third Thursday at 6:00pm.

Be sure to check with your Circle Leader to find out if and where your circle will be meeting.

Upcoming Scripture Readings

December 5 —Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4, Psalm 1:68-79, Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

December 12—Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20, Psalm Isaiah 12:2-6, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18

December 19—Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a, Psalm Luke 1:46b-55, Hebrews 10:5-10,

Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

December 24—Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

December 26—First Sunday of Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3:12-17,

Luke 2:41-52

Those Who Serve In December

Readers: 12/5	Rebecca Peterson
12/12	Linda Levin
12/19	Jim Russey
12/24	4:00pm Shirley Leitgeb
	6:00pm Rick Pink
	7:30pm Teddy Nelson
12/26	<i>Lessons and Carols</i>

Usher	Naomi Fletcher
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Altar Flowers: December 12 - Jim and Ellie Russey

Bulletin, Bread and Wine:

December 5 - David and Gloria McGuire

December 12 – Elsa, Anna and Karin

December 19 – Elsa, Anna and Karin

December 24 – Elsa, Anna and Karin

December 26 - Elsa, Anna and Karin

Church Attendance Report

	Saturday	Sunday	Zoom
November 6/7 2021	22	41	8
November 13/14 2021	19	28	9
November 20/21 2021	16	26	9
November 27/28 2021	13	29	13

Giver _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

DONATION OF \$ _____ (any amount) To the Floral Fund	PLANT PURCHASE TO TAKE HOME
Donations to the Floral Fund will support the beautification of the sanctuary and narthex throughout the church year.	____ Poinsettia(s) \$10.00 \$ _____

If you are ordering a plant please have your orders in by December 13th.

CONTACT US:

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Secretary: Shirley Leitgeb

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Musician: Linda Levin

Choir Director: Rebecca Peterson

Custodian: Pat Toennesen

Congregation Council:

Rick Pink, President

Cathy Knudson, Vice President

Kay MacGregor, Secretary

Jo-Nell Berger

Naomi Fletcher

Ruth Jones

Janet Krueger

Peter Mattson

Kathy McDonough

Teddy Nelson

Cindy Olli

Rebecca Peterson



A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.