

# Welcome!



## *Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church*

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252

(570) 668-2180 - Email: [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net)

*Our Mission: Zion proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament as Gospel messengers in the community. We seek to be instruments through which God transforms lives and strengthens relationships within families and within our community of believers*

# The Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021 ~ 9:00 am

## The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

*Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*

*\*Congregation please stand*

### The Pre-service Music

## ~ The Gathering ~

### \* The Confession and Forgiveness

BLESSED BE THE HOLY TRINITY, ✚ ONE GOD, WHO ALONE DOES WONDERS, WHO LIFTS UP THE LOWLY, WHO FILLS THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS.

**Amen.**

LET US CONFESS OUR SIN, TRUSTING IN THE TENDER MERCY OF OUR GOD.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

GOD FOR WHOM WE WAIT,

**in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

GOD, IN CHRIST JESUS, HAS LOOKED WITH FAVOR UPON YOU! THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, ✚ YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN. YOU ARE CHILDREN OF THE MOST HIGH, INHERITORS OF THE ETERNAL PROMISE, AND RECIPIENTS OF DIVINE MERCY. GOD STRENGTHENS YOU ANEW TO FOLLOW THE WAY OF PEACE.

**Amen.**

### \* The Gathering Hymn

*"Prepare the Royal Highway"*

No.26

### \* The Greeting

THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE REFINING FIRE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND THE GRACE OF GOD, WHICH SURPASSES UNDERSTANDING, BE WITH YOU ALL.

**And also with you.**

### \* The Kyrie Eleison *(music on page 57 of LBW)*

IN PEACE, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

*(Sung)* **Lord, have mercy.**

FOR THE PEACE FROM ABOVE, AND FOR OUR SALVATION, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

**Lord, have mercy.**

FOR THE PEACE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE CHURCH OF GOD, AND FOR THE UNITY OF ALL, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

**Lord, have mercy.**

FOR THIS HOLY HOUSE, AND FOR ALL WHO OFFER HERE THEIR WORSHIP AND PRAISE, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

**Lord, have mercy.**

HELP, SAVE, COMFORT, AND DEFEND US, GRACIOUS LORD.

**Amen.**

**\* The Prayer of the Day**

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

*(Sung)* **And also with you.**

LET US PRAY:

**Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

~The Word~

**The First Lesson Malachi 3:1-4**

*God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.*

*(After the reading)*

THE WORD OF THE LORD

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Candle Lighting**

**Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD, FOR THIS CIRCLE OF LIGHT THAT MARKS OUR DAYS OF PREPARATION FOR CHRIST'S ADVENT. AS WE LIGHT THE CANDLES ON THIS WREATH, KINDLE WITHIN US THE FIRE OF YOUR SPIRIT, THAT WE MAY BE LIGHT SHINING IN THE DARKNESS. ENLIGHTEN US WITH YOUR GRACE, THAT WE MAY WELCOME OTHERS AS YOU HAVE WELCOMED US. GRANT THIS THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD, WHOSE COMING IS CERTAIN AND WHOSE DAY DRAWS NEAR.

**Amen.**

*Light the second candle.*

**Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**The Second Lesson Philippians 1:3-11**

*The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

*(After the reading)*

THE WORD OF THE LORD

**Thanks be to God.**

**\* The Gospel Acclamation** *(Alleluia Verse LWB p. 62)*

**Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**\* The Holy Gospel St. Luke 3:1-6**

*John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

*(Before the Gospel)*

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE THE 3<sup>RD</sup> CHAPTER:

*(Sung) Glory to you, O Lord.*

*(After the Gospel)*

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

*(Sung) Praise to you, O Christ.*

**The Sermon**

*Pastor Cindy White*

**\* The Hymn of the Day**

*“On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry”*

No. 36

**\* The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**\* The Prayers of Intercession**

IN THIS SEASON OF WATCHING AND WAITING, LET US PRAY FOR ALL PEOPLE AND PLACES THAT YEARN FOR GOD’S PRESENCE.

*A brief silence.*

YOU SEND MESSENGERS INTO THE WORLD TO PROCLAIM THE DAY OF YOUR COMING. MAKE OUR BISHOPS, PASTORS, DEACONS, AND LAY PREACHERS CONFIDENT IN THEIR PREACHING, THAT THEIR WORDS AND OUR LIVES WITNESS TO YOUR GRACE. HEAR US, O GOD.

**Your mercy is great.**

SEND YOUR SPIRIT TO ALL LIVING CREATURES THAT ARE ENDANGERED. PROVIDE THEM WITH SHELTER AND CARE, AND BRING US INTO RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EARTH THAT YOU CREATE AND CALL GOOD. HEAR US, O GOD.

**Your mercy is great.**

SEND LEADERS TO OUR NATIONS, CITIES, SCHOOLS, AND BUSINESSES TO WORK ON BEHALF OF THOSE WHO HAVE LOST PARENTS, SPOUSES, AND LOVED ONES; IMMIGRANTS; THE IMPRISONED; THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY; AND ALL WHO ARE OPPRESSED. MAKE THEM BOLD IN THEIR COMMITMENTS TO JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION. HEAR US, O GOD.

**Your mercy is great.**

SEND YOUR SERVANTS TO CARE FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER. USE OUR MINISTRIES AND OUR LIVES TO REACH OUT WITH COMPASSION TO THOSE WHO ARE HUNGRY, OPPRESSED,

LONELY, OR ILL ESPECIALLY GEORGE, DARLENE, GAYLE, JIM, PAT, RICK, BROOKLYN, ELAINE, DEREK, FERN, ROBERT, MARY, DOLLY, CAROL, IRENE, CHRIS, NANCY, IDA, CAROLYN, RALPH, SAM, JOSEPH, EVA, JOHN, AND ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. GRANT THEM HEALING AND WHOLENESS. HEAR US, O GOD.

**Your mercy is great.**

SEND PROPHETS TO SPEAK DIFFICULT TRUTHS, EVEN WHEN THEY ARE POORLY RECEIVED. EMBOLDEN THOSE WHO ASK HARD QUESTIONS AND CHALLENGE ACCEPTED WAYS. INSTILL IN YOUTH AND ELDERS ALIKE A PASSION FOR POINTING TO JESUS IN ALL THINGS. HEAR US, O GOD.

**Your mercy is great.**

WE REMEMBER YOUR SAINTS, BOTH THOSE PUBLICLY CELEBRATED AND THOSE MORE HUMBLY REMEMBERED. CONFIDENT THAT YOUR WORK WILL BE COMPLETED, WE LIVE IN FAITH UNTIL THE DAY OF YOUR COMING. HEAR US, O GOD.

**Your mercy is great.**

GOD OF GRACE AND MERCY, (PLEASE SHARE ANY PERSONAL PRAYER PETITIONS) HEAR OUR PETITIONS THAT WE SPEAK OUT LOUD AND THE ONES THAT WE HOLD IN OUR HEARTS. HEAR US, O GOD.

**Your mercy is great.**

GOD OF NEW LIFE, YOU COME AMONG US IN THE PLACES WE LEAST EXPECT. RECEIVE THESE PRAYERS AND THOSE OF OUR HEARTS, IN THE NAME OF JESUS.

**Amen.**

**\* The Peace of Christ**

THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS.

**And also with you.**

**~The Meal~**

**The Offering and Offertory**

*Zion members, please use your envelopes for contributions so that your offering may be officially recorded. Please mail your envelopes to Zion Lutheran Church 101 N. Greenwood Street Tamaqua, PA 18252 or visit [ziontamaqua.com](http://ziontamaqua.com) for our myEoffering option.*

**\* The Offertory Procession** Tune: “*Oh Come Lord Jesus*”

**Oh, come Lord Jesus, be our guest and let your gifts to us be blest.**

**Keep us forever in your sight and be our joy, our hearts delight.**

**Oh, come Lord Jesus be our guest and let your gifts to us be blest.**

**Come deep within our hearts to dwell that we may all your good news tell.**

**\* The Offertory Prayer**

LET US PRAY: GOD OF OUR WAITING AND WATCHING, WE OFFER THE GIFTS OF OUR HEARTS AND OUR LIVES TO THE SERVICE OF ALL YOUR PEOPLE. PREPARE THE WAY BEFORE US AS WE MEET YOU IN THIS SIMPLE MEAL, THROUGH CHRIST JESUS, OUR PATHWAY AND OUR PEACE.

**Amen.**

**The Anthem**

**“We Are Waiting”** – Albrecht/ Wesley

**\* The Great Thanksgiving**

**\* The Preface and Sanctus** (*music on page 68 of LBW*)

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

*(Sung)* **And also with you.**

LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

LET US GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD OUR GOD.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

IT IS INDEED RIGHT.....THEIR UNENDING HYMN: (*LBW page 69*)

*(Sung)* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**\* The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

HOLY ONE, THE BEGINNING AND THE END, THE GIVER OF LIFE: BLESSED ARE YOU FOR THE BIRTH OF CREATION...BLESSED ARE YOU FOR YOUR SON JESUS, THE WORD MADE FLESH.

IN THE NIGHT IN WHICH HE WAS BETRAYED, OUR LORD JESUS TOOK BREAD, AND GAVE THANKS...DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

AGAIN, AFTER SUPPER, HE TOOK THE CUP, GAVE THANKS...DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

LET US PROCLAIM THE MYSTERY OF FAITH:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

WITH THIS BREAD AND CUP WE REMEMBER YOUR WORD DWELLING AMONG US, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH. WE REMEMBER OUR NEW BIRTH IN HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION. WE LOOK WITH HOPE FOR HIS COMING.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

HOLY GOD, WE LONG FOR YOUR SPIRIT. COME AMONG US. BLESS THIS MEAL. MAY YOUR WORD TAKE FLESH IN US. AWAKEN YOUR PEOPLE. FILL US WITH YOUR LIGHT. BRING THE GIFT OF PEACE ON EARTH.

**Come Holy Spirit.**

ALL PRAISE AND GLORY ARE YOURS, HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL, WORD OF GOD INCARNATE, POWER OF THE MOST HIGH, ONE GOD, NOW AND FOREVER.

**Amen.**

**\* The Lord's Prayer**

JESUS, REMEMBER US IN YOUR KINGDOM; AND TEACH US TO PRAY:

**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 Invitation to the Holy Meal**

COME TO CHRIST'S BANQUET. FEAST ON GOD'S GIFT OF GRACE.

**\* The Agnus Dei "Lamb of God" (*LBW page 72*)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## **The Distribution**

*All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in the Sacrament are welcome to commune when we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Zion members, please complete a Communion card once a year for our records.*

### **\* The Post-Communion Blessing**

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST STRENGTHEN YOU AND KEEP YOU IN HIS GRACE.  
**Amen.**

### **\* The Post Communion Canticle “Magnificat”**

**My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.  
He hath showed strength with his arm;  
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts,  
He hath put down the mighty from their seats and exalted them of low degree.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy;  
as he spake to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.  
Glory be to the Father: and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.**

### **\* The Post Communion Prayer**

LET US PRAY: MOST HIGH GOD, YOU HAVE COME AMONG US AT THIS TABLE. BY THE SPIRIT'S POWER, FORM US TO BE BEARERS OF YOUR WORD, SHARING GIFTS OF MERCY AND GRACE WITH ALL, THROUGH CHRIST JESUS, OUR HOST AND OUR GUEST.  
**Amen.**

## **~The Sending~**

### **\* The Blessing**

THE GOD OF HOPE FILL US WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE IN BELIEVING, SO THAT WE MAY ABOUND IN HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THROUGH CHRIST JESUS FOR WHOM WE WAIT.  
*(Spoken) Amen.*

### **\* The Sending**

GO IN PEACE. CHRIST IS NEAR.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **\* The Sending Hymn “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” Additional Hymnal No.2**

**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.**

**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.**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4** - <sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

## **Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11**

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

## **Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

**December 12, 2021 readings are:** Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Philippians 4:4-7      Luke 3:7-18



# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

*December 4-5, 2021*

*\*If you need assistance, please see one of the ushers in the back of the church; Large Print Bulletins are available. Grape juice is available in the tray for those who wish not to partake of the wine. Please Silence your cell phones during service. A Family Room is available for use during or after services. It is located across from the office. A changing station is available for your convenience in the restroom across the hall from the Family Room. We respectfully ask that you refrain from taking photos during the service. Opportunities are always available after the service. Welcome visitors please sign our guest book. Thank you.*

## **GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

**THE CANDLES** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Rose Miller & Bob "Pap" Trakes by Mike & Kathy Miller & family

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God and

In honor of the Stamper family by Bethany M. Brown

**THE BULLETINS** are given to the Glory of God and

In honor of all of Zion's wonderful volunteers by Dave and Darlene Fetterman

**CURRENT FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of our brother, Jack who passed away 1 year ago on December 2<sup>nd</sup> love sister and brothers

*Please remember the following in your prayers: George Bozosi, Darlene Skasko, Gayle Hadesty, Jim McRoberts, Pat Brown, Rick Bachman, Brooklyn, Elaine Koch, Derek Hill, Fern Rudenko, Robert Schlock, Mary Richards, Dolly Christ, Carol Dietrich, Irene Pecha, Mrs. Chris Miller, Nancy Betz, Ida Piccin, Carolyn Tirpak, Ralph Derr, Sam Caley, Joseph Harvilla, Eva (Mitzi) Koomar, Mary Koch, John Lattanzi, and all our members who are homebound.*

## **Welcome!!**

Parish office phone and fax is 570-668-2180.

Parish office email address is [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net)

Parish website is [www.ziontamaqua.com](http://www.ziontamaqua.com)

Parish Office Hours- Monday & Wednesday: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Zion's 2021 Church Council officers:** Chris Henritz, President, Michael Haspe, Vice-President, Tiffany Warden, Secretary, Dave Gensure, Treasurer, and Ann Marie Hadesty, Financial Secretary. Other members of Council include: Judy Brennan, Sam Caley, Arlene Derr, Ernie Henritz, Glenn Fritzing, Brian Lawfer, Bob Maue, Steve Ristila and Mary Ruth Taylor; if you have suggestions or concerns, please seek out a member of Council so that we can promptly address the needs of the congregation.

# This Week in Our Church

## SUNDAY, December 5, 2021, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

8:00 Confirmation Class  
9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament  
10:15 Christian Education

## TUESDAY

9:30 Work Session  
6:00 Property Meeting  
7:30 Finance Meeting

## WEDNESDAY

7:00 Senior Choir Rehearsal

## THURSDAY

9:30 Work Session

## FRIDAY

9:00 Blessings Sale

## SATURDAY

10:00 Community Advent Service/ St. John XXIII  
5:30 Saturday Evening Worship

## NEXT SUNDAY, December 12, 2021, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

8:00 Confirmation Class  
9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament  
10:00 Congregational Meeting  
10:15 Christian Education

### **Supporting Zion's Ministries**

Contributions received for 11/28/21:

Received to meet \$4,067.27 weekly budget: \$26,915.23  
(\$24,425.00 Endowment Gift)

Received for Endowment: \$0.00

Received for Capital Campaign: \$907.25

Contributions YTD to meet operating budget expenses: \$204,255.30\*

Received from offering/gifts/memorials: \$156,120.30\*

Received from Endowment: \$44,135.00

Received from Culinary: \$4,000.00

Received from Bequests: (\*included in amounts) \$29,578.71

Budget operating expenses YTD: \$207,813.44

Budget status YTD: \$(3,558.14)

*Thank you for your gifts.*

*Your offerings allow us to share the word of God and the love of*

**Volunteers are needed to help make pierogies please see Michael Haspe or call the church office. Proceeds will benefit Zion's Youth program.**

**Holiday season is here- Remember to shop with the AmazonSmile program.** Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Zion** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support Zion by shopping at **smile.amazon.com**. Just go to our website or Facebook and click the link. Thanks in advance for your support!!

**Upcoming Events**

**December 12** – Congregational Meeting

**December 19** – Family Christmas Movie and Craft Event

**December 24** – Christmas Eve Service 4:00 & 9:00 pm

**December 25** – No 5:30 pm Service

**December 26** – 9:00 am Service

**Volunteer Opportunity!** We are currently seeking individuals to volunteer for the Cemetery Committee and Maintenance workers for the grounds. Please see Mark Valentine if you are interested.

**CHRISTMAS 2021 - POINSETTIA PLANTS and MEMORIAL GIFTS** - Plants ordered through the church office are \$9.00. December 5<sup>h</sup> is the last day to order your plants. Forms are available in the newsletter. Please return the form with all monies no later than December 5, 2021. Monetary gifts should be in the church office **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>**. Extra order forms are available by the Church Communication Bulletin Board.

***Community Advent Service***

*St. John XXIII, Tamaqua*

*Saturday, December 11, 2021, at 10:00 am*

Sponsored by the Tamaqua Ministerial Association

**Zion's Blessing Christmas Sale** Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Volunteers needed, please see Judy Brennan. Come and shop for the holidays! Hope to see you there! **Thank you!**

**AN AFTERNOON WITH RUDOLPH** - A Zion Lutheran Family Christmas event, Sunday, December 19, 2021, from 2 to 4 p.m. Movie, snacks, crafts, photo ops with Rudolph and Santa. Limited seating please call Deb Davies at 570-778-2731 for reservations.

**Tree of Remembrance:** The installation of the Tree of Remembrance is under way, and we are looking for your memories! Memories can be that of a loved one who has gone to God, or photo of a significant memory or life event that is important to you. Photos should be cut square and be 1.5in. x 1.5in. If you need assistance printing or reducing the size of a photo please let us know, we'd be happy to try to help. If you submitted a photos in past years they will be placed on the tree again this year. The Tree of Remembrance project was a generous gift to Zion from the congregation of the Former Advent Lutheran Church in Tuscarora. This tree symbolizes that we are one together in Christ. Photos for the tree should be placed in an envelope and placed in the Tree of Remembrance box in the gathering room. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Thompson at [njflip62@gmail.com](mailto:njflip62@gmail.com) or by calling 570-778-2604.

**Annual Fiscal Meeting Announcement** - The Annual Fiscal Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 12, 2021 immediately following the service. The agenda items will be restricted to the establishment of a 2022 budget, and the election of Church Council members. The meeting will be brief, but your participation is **Very Important** as a quorum needs to be met. Copies of the budget are available in the Gathering Room.



# Christmas Eve

CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

You are invited to join us for our Christmas Eve services at 4:00 pm & 9:00 pm. Both services will include the Liturgy of Word and Sacrament, Carols, Prayer and Candlelight. Please join us for this observance of the Nativity of Our Lord. All are Welcome!

