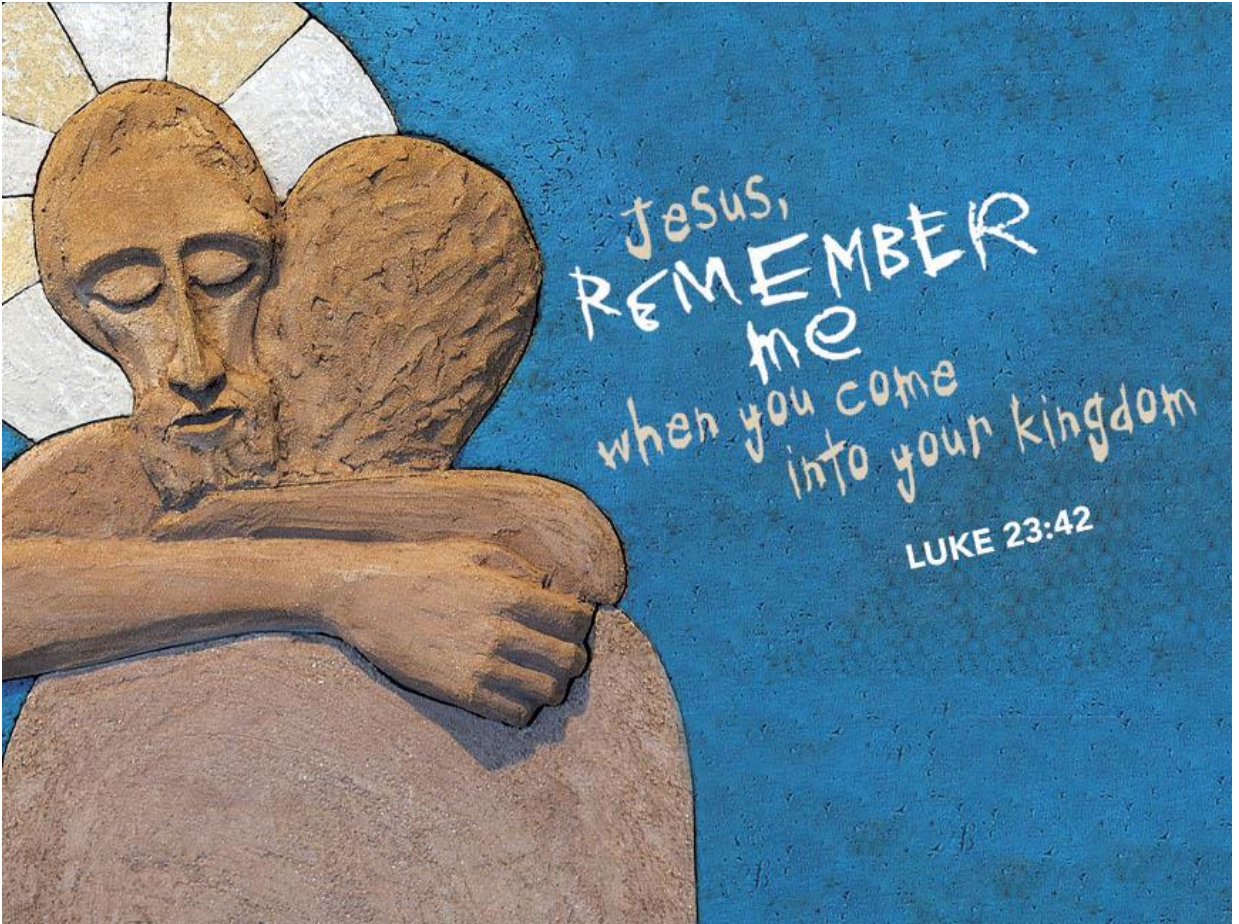


Welcome!



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252

(570) 668-2180 - Email: 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

Christ the King Sunday

November 20, 2022 ~ 9:00 am
The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

**Congregation please stand*

The Pre-service Music

~ The Gathering ~

* The Confession and Forgiveness

BLESSED BE THE HOLY TRINITY, † ONE GOD, WHO REDEEMS US IN CHRIST JESUS, WHOSE STEADFAST LOVE ENDURES FOREVER.

Amen.

LET US CONFESS OUR SIN IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND OF ONE ANOTHER.

Silence is kept for reflection.

MOST MERCIFUL GOD,

we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have ignored voices that call for your justice. We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness. We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community. We truly repent of things we have done and left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness, follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen.

REJOICE AND BE GLAD! GOD HEARS THE PRAYERS OF ALL WHO CRY OUT, AND RESTORES US TO LIFE THROUGH THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST. THEREFORE, I DECLARE TO YOU THE FORGIVENESS OF ALL YOUR SINS, IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE † SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Amen.

* The Gathering Hymn *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"* No. 170 stanzas 1,4,5,6

* The Greeting

SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN CHRIST, BELOVED CHILDREN OF GOD: GRACE, MERCY, AND PEACE BE WITH YOU ALL.

And also with you.

* The Kyrie Eleison *(Now the Feast)*

IN PEACE, IN PEACE, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

FOR THE REIGN OF GOD, AND FOR PEACE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, FOR THE UNITY OF ALL, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

FOR YOUR PEOPLE HERE, WHO HAVE COME TO GIVE YOU PRAISE, FOR THE STRENGTH TO LIVE YOUR WORD, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

HELP, SAVE, AND DEFEND US, O GOD.

Amen.

* **The Hymn of Praise** *(Now the Feast)*

(Refrain) **Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy to the
God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory for evermore!**

NOW IS THE FEAST OF THE LAMB ONCE SLAIN, WHOSE BLOOD HAS FREED
AND UNITED US TO BE ONE GREAT PEOPLE OF GOD. *(Refrain)*

POWER AND RICHES, WISDOM AND MIGHT,
ALL HONOR AND GLORY TO CHRIST FOR EVER. *(Refrain)*

FOR GOD HAS COME TO DWELL WITH US TO MAKE US PEOPLE OF GOD;
TO MAKE ALL THINGS NEW. *(Refrain)*

* **The Prayer of the Day**

THE LORD BE WITH YOU
(Sung) **And also with you.**

LET US PRAY:

**O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship
you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us,
and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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 Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD
Thanks be to God.

The Psalm 46 Tune "*Oh God, Our Help in Ages Past*" No. 320

God is our refuge and our strength, Our helper ever near.

THEREFORE WE WILL NOT FEAR, THOUGH THE EARTH BE MOVED AND THE MOUNTAINS
FALL INTO THE OCEAN DEPTHS; THOUGH ITS WATERS RAGE AND FOAM AND THE
MOUNTAINS TREMBLE AT ITS TUMULT.

The Lord of hosts is at our side; To shelter us from fear.

THERE IS A RIVER THAT BRINGS JOY TO THE CITY OF GOD, THE HOLY HABITATION OF
THE MOST HIGH. GOD IS IN THE MIDST OF THAT CITY; IT WILL NEVER BE DESTROYED; AT
EARLY DAWN HE WILL COME TO ITS AID.

God is our refuge and our strength, Our helper ever near.

NATIONS ARE TERRIFIED, KINGDOMS ARE SHAKEN. GOD HAS SPOKEN, AND THE EARTH
SHALL MELT AWAY.

The Lord of hosts is at our side; To shelter us from fear.

COME, BEHOLD THE WORKS OF THE LORD, WHAT AWESOME THINGS HE HAS DONE ON
EARTH. HE MAKES WAR TO CEASE IN ALL THE WORLD; HE BREAKS THE BOW, AND
SHATTERS THE SPEAR; HE BURNS THE SHIELDS WITH FIRE.

God is our refuge and our strength, Our helper ever near.

"BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD. I WILL BE EXALTED AMONG THE NATIONS; I WILL BE EXALTED IN THE EARTH."

The Lord of hosts is at our side; To shelter us from fear.

The Second Lesson Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

*** The Gospel Acclamation** *(Alleluia Verse Now the Feast)*

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

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

*** The Holy Gospel** St. Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

(Before the Gospel)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE THE 23RD CHAPTER:

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

(After the Gospel)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

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

The Sermon

Pastor Cindy White

*** The Hymn of the Day**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

No. 534

*** 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**

UNITED WITH YOUR SAINTS ACROSS TIME AND PLACE, WE PRAY FOR OUR SHARED WORLD.

A brief silence.

WE PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH. EMBOLDEN DENOMINATIONS AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS IN CREATIVE AND COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES AND INCREASE OUR WORK FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

receive our prayer.

WE PRAY FOR THE EARTH. PROTECT WATERWAYS FROM POLLUTION AND ANIMAL HABITATS FROM DESTRUCTION. GUIDE US IN CAREFUL STEWARDSHIP OF WATERS, PLANT LIFE, AND ANIMALS. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

receive our prayer.

WE PRAY FOR THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD. INSTILL IN EVERY LEADER'S HEART A DESIRE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE. SUPPORT THE WORK OF INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS THAT SEEK THE GOALS OF HEALTH AND JOY FOR ALL PEOPLE ESPECIALLY CAROLYN, MARLIN, KIM, JOHN, DENA, TIM, CINDY, ROBERT, GEORGE, PAT, DEREK, ELIZABETH, MARY, CHRIS, NANCY, RALPH, JOSEPH, EVA, AND ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

receive our prayer.

WE PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE UNDERMINED OR OPPRESSED. AMPLIFY THE VOICES OF THE UNHEARD AND BREAK OPEN STUBBORN SYSTEMS OF INJUSTICE. BRING ABOUT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS AND FILL US ALL WITH YOUR REDEEMING LIGHT. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

receive our prayer.

WE PRAY FOR THIS ASSEMBLY. GUIDE OUR PASTOR/S, DEACON/S, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS IN DISCERNMENT, AND NURTURE NEW LEADERS WITH FRESH IDEAS. GIVE THIS CONGREGATION A SPIRIT OF DISCIPLESHIP AND SERVICE. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

receive our prayer.

WE GIVE THANKS FOR ALL WHO HAVE DIED IN THE FAITH. CONSOLE US WHO MOURN AND COMFORT US WITH THE BEAUTIFUL PROMISE OF LIFE IN YOUR KINGDOM. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

receive our prayer.

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. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

receive our prayer.

ACCEPT THESE PRAYERS, GRACIOUS GOD, AND THOSE KNOWN ONLY TO YOU; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD.

Amen.

*** The Peace of Christ**

THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS.

And also with you.

The Recognition of 1st Holy Communicants

Liberty Coleman

Alexander D'Alonzo

Peyton Faust

~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 for our Vanco option.

*** The Offertory Procession “As the Grains of Wheat”**

(Refrain) **As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the
ends of earth be gathered into one in you.**

**As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. *(Refrain)***

*** The Offertory Prayer**

LET US PRAY: MERCIFUL GOD,

**everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have
entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole live returned to you, dedicated to
the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*** The Great Thanksgiving**

*** The Preface and Sanctus**

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 God thanks and praise.

IT IS OUR DUTY.....THEIR UNENDING HYMN: *(Now the Feast)*

(Sung) **Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; Heaven and earth are filled
with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your
name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

*** The Eucharistic Prayer *(Now the Feast)***

YOU ARE INDEED HOLY, ... WE PRAY FOR HIS COMING AGAIN EVEN AS WE CRY.

AMEN. COME, LORD JESUS. AMEN. COME, LORD JESUS.

(Sung) **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

SEND NOW, WE PRAY, YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, THAT ALL OF YOUR PROMISES MAY COME TO US
AND YOUR WHOLE CREATION.

AMEN. COME, HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN COME, HOLY SPIRIT.

(Sung) **Amen, Come Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THIS WE PRAY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR AND OUR FRIEND.

(Sung) **Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, O God, now and forever. Amen.**

*** The Lord's Prayer**

MAKE US BOLD, O MERCIFUL GOD, TO ADDRESS YOU AS OUR ABBA AS WE 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 Agnus Dei “Lamb of God”** *(Now the Feast)*
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace, 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

MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST AND THE GIFTS OF HIS BODY AND BLOOD STRENGTHEN, KEEP AND UNITE, NOW AND FOREVER.

Amen.

- * **The Post-Communion Canticle** *(Now the Feast)*

**Praise to you, O God of mercy! Thanks be to you forever!
 Raising high the weak and lowly; Thanks be to you forever!
 From of old you loved and sought us! Thanks be to you forever!
 Truth and justice you have taught us; Thanks be to you forever!
 Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love,
 Rememb’ring your covenant of life with us.
 Praise to you, O God of mercy! Thanks be to you forever!
 Raising high the weak and lowly; Thanks be to you forever! Thanks be to you forever!**

- * **The Post Communion Prayer**

LET US PRAY, WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O GOD, FOR THE BLESSING OF THIS TABLE. MAY OUR LIVES BE MADE NEW BY THESE GIFTS OF GRACE AND MAY YOUR LOVE BE MADE KNOWN THROUGH US.

Amen.

The Senior Choir Anthem “O Give Thanks to the Lord” – Pethel

~The Sending~

- * **The Blessing**

MAY GOD BLESS US AND KEEP US. MAY GOD’S FACE SHINE ON US AND BE GRACIOUS TO US. MAY GOD LOOK ON US WITH FAVOR AND GIVE US PEACE.

(Sung) Amen.

- * **The Sending**

GO IN PEACE. SERVE THE LORD.

Thanks be to God.

- * **The Sending Hymn**

“Rejoice, the Lord is King!”

No. 171

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6 – Not Printed

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴[[Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

November 27, 2022 readings are: Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 19-20, 2022

**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, 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 loved ones by Terri and Bob Livingston.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of the birthdays of Eugene and Jane Springer love, Judy

THE BULLETINS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Bernice Ferris on her 116th birthday by Sandy Scott

CURRENT FUND DONATIONS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Jane Springer's birthday love, Judy

ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of special friends, Velma Mantz, Kermit Mantz and Betty Davis by June Seeds

The 2023 sponsorship sign-ups are now on the bulletin board.

Please remember the following in your prayers: Carolyn and Marlin Tirpak, Kim and John Eckert, Dena and Tim Phillips, Cindy Collura, Robert Dolbin, George Bozosi, Pat Brown, Derek Hill, Elizabeth Zimmerman, Mary Richards, Mrs. Chris Miller, Nancy Betz, Ralph Derr, Joseph Harvilla, Eva (Mitzi) Koomar, 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

Parish website is www.ziontamaqua.com

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

Tuesday: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Zion's 2022 Church Council officers: Michael Haspe, President, Brian Lawfer, 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, 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

Deadline for the
December/
January
Newsletter is
Monday,
November 21,
2022.

Have a Blessed
Thanksgiving from
the staff at Zion!

SUNDAY, November 20, 2022, Christ the King Sunday

- 8:00 Confirmation Class
- 9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament/ 1st Holy Communion
Joyful Noise Offering
- 10:15 Christian Education

MONDAY

- Newsletter Deadline
- 6:30 Council Meeting

TUESDAY

- 7:00 Community Thanksgiving Service/ Trinity UCC

WEDNESDAY

- 6:00 NA Meeting

THURSDAY

Office Closed

SATURDAY

- Kitchen Reserved
- 5:30 Saturday Evening Worship

NEXT SUNDAY, November 27, 2022, The First Sunday in Advent

- 8:00 Confirmation Class
- 9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament
- 10:15 Christian Education
- 10:30 Church Advent Breakfast

Supporting Zion's Ministries

Contributions received for 11/13/22:

Received to meet \$4,049.75 weekly budget:	\$1,930.00
Received from Thrift Store	\$0.00
Received for Endowment:	\$200.00
Received for Capital Campaign:	\$733.00

Contributions YTD to meet operating budget expenses: \$178,835.25

Received from offering/gifts/memorials:	\$112,669.50
Received from Thrift Store	\$7,725.66
Received from Endowment:	\$44,000.00
Received from Culinary:	\$11,145.00
Received from Schlitzer Fund	\$3,295.09

Budget operating expenses YTD: \$194,951.47

Budget status YTD: \$(16,116.22)

Thank you for your gifts.

*Your offerings allow us to share the word of God and the love of
Jesus with our congregation and our community.*

Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at Trinity UCC, Tamaqua on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Sponsored by the Tamaqua Ministerial Association. All are welcome!

Upcoming Events

November 20 – 1st Holy Communion

November 22 – Community Thanksgiving Service

November 27 – Church Advent Breakfast

December 4 – Family Christmas Event

December 4 – Annual Fiscal Meeting

December 8 – Hoagie Pick-up

Hoagie sale - The Culinary Team is holding a hoagie sale. Regular Hoagies are \$7 each. Order by December 4th, at <https://www.ziontamaqua.com> or by calling 570-668-4451. Pick up is Thursday, December 8th from noon until 3:00 pm. Thank you for your support!!

Attention old acolytes or anyone else who would like to try to serve. I need more acolytes than the ones we have for both Christmas Eve services. If you would be willing, either 4 pm or 9 pm, call Melody with your name, telephone number, and time of service. I will get back to you. Thank you, Art

Tree of Memories - Memories can be of a loved one who has gone to God, or photo of a significant memory or life event that is important to your family. Photos should be cut square and be 1.5in. x 1.5in. Photos should be placed in an envelope and placed in the Tree of Memories box in the gathering room. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Thompson at njflip62@gmail.com or by calling 570-778-2604.

November's Joyful Noise offering is for the Greater Philadelphia Diaper Bank. Zion's Diaper Depot ministry is a community pantry of the Greater Philadelphia Diaper Bank. So far this year, the diaper bank has provided over 17,000 diapers to our ministry. Your gift is greatly appreciated by the hundreds of children served by this Zion ministry.

Sunday Church Advent Breakfast - **November 27, 2022, 10:30 AM TO 12:00 Noon.** To begin the Advent season CULINARY WILL BE HOSTING A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP ADVENT BREAKFAST. Menu: SCRAMBLED EGGS, SAUSAGE OR BACON, BAGELS AND TOAST. No Charge/ Donations Accepted. Hope to see you there!

Our Blessing Thrift Store will be closed in December and January and will re-open February 2023. We would like to thank all the people that helped make this Outreach a success from the generosity of the donations that we receive, to the helpers who organize the goods, and the people who bake and donate food items. Please keep this Outreach in your prayers. And have a Blessed Holiday Season. Thank you, Outreach Committee

“Serving people at the Blessing Thrift sales has shown me the great need that people have for the simple things which most of us take for granted. It is a blessing to see the joy that people have upon leaving with their purchases and knowing that I helped to make their lives better.” - Lori Krell

There are many ways we can serve. Do you have an hour per week to spare? An hour per month? Is Wednesday a free night? An hour on Sunday, after church? As we prepare for the new year, we are looking forward to the many ministries that our church will provide to its members and to the community. In order to continue to meet our vision, like we do with the Blessing Thrift Shop, we need to keep our building in good condition. This involves things as simple as doing a little mopping, dusting, or vacuuming, to more complex things like wiring and lighting upgrades. If you can help, please reach out to Mark Valentine, or call the parish office at 570-668-2180, for more information.

Family Christmas Event - Sunday, December 4, 2022 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Come enjoy the movie **Santa Claus is Comin' to Town**, refreshments, crafts, and games and of course Santa will make an appearance. Children of all ages are welcome as well as those who are young at heart. Please Call Deb Davies at 570-778-2731 to register. Please bring a new toy which will be donated to Toys for Tots.

A **nnual Fiscal Meeting Announcement** - The Annual Fiscal Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2022 immediately following the service. The agenda items will be restricted to the establishment of a 2023 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.

Volunteers Needed! We are in need of lectors and communion assistants and cantors. If you are able to read a lesson or pour the wine for the distribution of communion, or even if you are interested in singing the small parts done by the cantor, please contact Sandy Mehalko (570) 668-4101, or stop by the organ on Sunday mornings. I try to do the schedule for an entire year, but will certainly find person to fill in if you are unable to serve your scheduled date. The lessons are sent to you ahead of time so you can look over them. Please consider serving in one of these ministries. Thank you, Sandy.

1st Holy Communion - This year 3 young people have participated in the preparatory classes for First Holy Communion: Liberty Coleman, Alexander D'Alonzo, and Peyton Faust. They will receive their first Sacrament of Holy Communion today. May you always know the peace of Jesus, the light of his love, and the joy of his life within you.