

*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: Empowered and Inspired by God to bring others to Christ.*

# *The Fourth Sunday of Advent/ Ministry of Music*

December 22, 2024 ~ 9:00 am

## *The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament*

*Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."*

*\*Congregation please stand*

### **The Pre-service Music**

~ The Gathering ~

#### **\* The Confession and Forgiveness**

BLESSED BE THE HOLY TRINITY, † ONE GOD, ALIVE IN THE WORLD, REVIVING CREATION, ARRIVING SOON.

**Amen.**

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

*Please kneel if able.*

GOD OF MERCY,

**we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

GOD OF MIGHT,

**we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

GOD IN OUR MIDST,

**we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A RIGHTEOUS BRANCH SPRINGS FORTH: IT IS CHRIST THE LORD, OUR SAVIOR, IN WHOM WE HAVE FORGIVENESS, LIFE, AND MERCY. BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, RECEIVE THE GRACE AND FORGIVENESS OF GOD THROUGH † CHRIST JESUS, WHOSE DAY DRAWS NEAR.

**Amen.**

#### **\* The Gathering Hymn**

*"People, Look East"*

WOV No. 626

**People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.**

**Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.**

**People, look east, and sing today - Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.**

**Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.**

**People, look east, and sing today - Love, the Rose, is on the way.**

**Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,**

**Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.**

**People, look east, and sing today - Love, the Star, is on the way.**

**Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.**

**Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.**

**People, look east, and sing today - Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

## \* The Greeting

THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE REFINING FIRE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND THE PEACE 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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## ~The Word~

### The First Lesson Micah 5:2-5a

*The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherd-king who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.*

*(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.**

PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD, WHO LIVES WITH US, SHARING OUR FLESH AND BONES. AS MARY WAITED AND JOSEPH DREAMED, SO WE DREAM AND WAIT FOR YOU. BLESS US AND LET YOUR FACE SHINE UPON US, MORE RADIANT THAN THESE CANDLES, AND MORE DEAR THAN ALL ELSE WE SEEK. RESTORE US WHEN WE FAIL TO REFUSE THE EVIL AND CHOOSE THE GOOD, AND BANISH ALL OUR FEARS. WE PRAY IN THE NAME OF EMMANUEL, YOUR PROMISED CHILD AND OUR SAVIOR.

**Amen.**

*Light the fourth candle.*

**Oh, come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

## **The Second Lesson Hebrews 10:5-10**

*The author of Hebrews uses the image of religious sacrifice to convey the significance of Christ's coming. Through obedient acceptance of God's will, Christ allows his own body to become the greatest sacrifice of all, one through which we are made a holy people.*

*(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 1:39-55**

*Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.*

*(Before the Gospel)*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CHAPTER:**

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

*(After the Gospel)*

**THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD**

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

## **The Ministry of Music**

**"Celtic Advent Carol"** – Angerman/ Barrett

*Senior Choir*

**"Candle of Peace"** – Johnson

**"Carol of Prophecy"** – McRae

*Sunday School Choir*

**"Tell Us 'Bout a Baby"** – Raney

**"Celebrate Jesus, the King!"** – Williams/ Barrett

## **\*The Hymn of the Day**      **"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"**      WOV No. 632

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came, With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame;  
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary, Most highly favored lady." Gloria!**

**"For know a blessed mother thou shalt be, All generations laud and honor thee;  
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, Most highly favored lady." Gloria!**

**Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head; "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.  
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!**

**Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:  
"Most highly favored lady," Gloria!**

## \* 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

AS WE PREPARE FOR EMMANUEL, GOD-WITH-US, LET US PRAY FOR ALL PEOPLE AND PLACES THAT LONG FOR GOD'S PRESENCE.

*A brief silence.*

GOD OUR UNITER, INCREASE COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION IN OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THOSE OF OTHER TRADITIONS AND RELIGIONS. ROOT YOUR CHURCH IN THE RADICAL MESSAGE OF YOUR INCARNATION, AND ENABLE US TO PURSUE YOUR JUSTICE IN THE WORLD. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

**receive our prayer.**

GOD OUR CREATOR, WE PRAISE YOU FOR THE BEAUTY THAT SURROUNDS US. AWAKEN IN US A RENEWED SENSE OF CARE FOR THE WILDLIFE IN OUR COMMUNITIES. FORM US INTO FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF WHAT YOU HAVE MADE. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

**receive our prayer.**

GOD OUR SOVEREIGN, MARY PROCLAIMS A NEW WAY OF LIFE THAT LIFTS UP THE LOWLY AND FILLS THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS. NURTURE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPALITIES A DESIRE TO CARE FOR ALL WHO ARE OVERLOOKED AND IGNORED. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

**receive our prayer.**

GOD OUR BEACON, AS THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE BEGINS ITS SLOW TURN TOWARD MORE DAYLIGHT, REMIND US THAT EVEN IN THE DEEPEST NIGHTS, YOU ARE THERE. COMFORT THE LONELY AND BEREAVED. HOLD CLOSELY THE FRIGHTENED, ANXIOUS, DEPRESSED, AND ILL ESPECIALLY THE FAMILY OF JAMES BYNON; STEVE, CHRISTINE, EDDIE, GEORGE, JAN, RALPH, AND ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

**receive our prayer.**

GOD OUR GUIDE, SHEPHERD THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS CONGREGATION. BLESS THE COUNCIL AND STAFF IN DISCERNING FUTURE MINISTRY AND OPEN THEIR HEARTS TO THE VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY. LORD, IN YOUR MERCY,

**receive our prayer.**

GOD OUR LIFE, YOU REMEMBER THE PROMISES YOU HAVE MADE TO YOUR PEOPLE. IN GRATITUDE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED, WE PRAISE YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS THROUGHOUT HISTORY. 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.**

SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME, AND RECEIVE THESE PRAYERS AND THE PLEAS OF OUR HEARTS, IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST.

**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 Vanco option.*

**\* The Offertory Procession** Tune: “O 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 goodness tell.**

**\* The Offertory Prayer**

LET US PRAY: CREATOR GOD, YOU MADE THE WHOLE WORLD, EVEN THE FARTHEST STARS, AND YOU DRAW NEAR TO FEED US. WE PRAISE YOU FOR THESE GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE. STRENGTHEN US WITH THIS FOOD THAT WE MAY LIVE IN EXPECTATION FOR THE ADVENT OF YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.

**Amen.**

**\* 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**

GOD FEEDS US WITH TENDER MERCY. COME TO THE TABLE.

## \* **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: GENEROUS GOD, WE THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF LIFE, FOR THE BREAD OF SALVATION. WE THANK YOU FOR COMING AMONG US, FOR LEADING US INTO PEACE. WE THANK YOU FOR SHOWERING US WITH MERCY, FOR SENDING US INTO THE WORLD. COME, LORD JESUS, AND GO WITH US AS WE FEED THE HUNGRY IN YOUR NAME.

**Amen.**

~The Sending~

**\* The Blessing**

GOD OF ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS, GOD IN THE DARKNESS AND THE LIGHT, GOD, OUR HOPE FOR THE JOURNEY, † BLESS AND KEEP YOU NOW AND FOREVER.

*(Spoken) Amen.*

**\* The Sending**

GO IN PEACE. PREPARE THE WAY FOR EMMANUEL.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\* The Sending Hymn**

*“My Lord, What a Morning ”*

WOV No. 627

*(Refrain) My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning;*

*Oh, my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.*

**You'll hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. *(Refrain)***

**You'll hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. *(Refrain)***

**You'll hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. *(Refrain)***

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**December 29, 2024 readings are:** 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
Colossians 3:12-17

Psalm 148  
Luke 2:41-52



# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

*December 21-22, 2024*

*\*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 ALTAR CANDLES*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Rose Miller Smith, Robert “Pap” & Madeline “Gram” Trakes by Mike & Kathy Miller & family

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

In honor of Dad Hargis by Pastor Cindy

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

For the prosperity of our church in our hometown & community by Stacey Faust & Emily Stahler

***Please remember the following in your prayers: The family and friends of James Bynon, Steve Ristila, Christine Zimmerman, Eddie Smith, George Weaver, Jan McRoberts, Ralph Derr, and all our members who are homebound.***

A reminder that both a record of communion AND a record of contribution is necessary to maintain voting active member status. Please remember to complete a communion card and to use your offering envelopes. Thank you, Church Council

## **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 & Thursday: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Zion’s 2024 Church Council officers:** Michael Haspe, President, Brian Lawfer, Vice-President, Ernie Henritz, Secretary, Dave Gensure, Treasurer, and Ann Marie Hadesty, Financial Secretary. Other members of Council include Arlene Derr, Glenn Fritzinger, Thomas Graham, Carol Hartung, Amanda Hascin, Steve Ristila, Brittany Scalfani 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 22, 2024, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament/ Ministry of Music  
10:15 Holiday Potluck

## TUESDAY, Christmas Eve

4:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight/ Communion Service  
9:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight/ Communion Service

## SATURDAY

6:00 Saturday Evening Worship

## SUNDAY, December 29, 2024

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament  
10:15 Senior Choir Rehearsal  
10:15 Christian Education  
11:00 Confirmation Class

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

*“Empowered and inspired by God to bring others to Christ”*

Received 12/15/24 in support of Zion Ministries:

From our gifts	\$5,186.04
From Thrift Store	\$762.25
From Endowment (other)	\$0.00
Received for Endowment:	\$320.00
Received for Capital Campaign:	\$997.00

Received year-to-date for Zion's mission/ministries:

From offering/gifts/memorials:	\$142,940.25
From Thrift Store:	\$9,682.84*
From Endowment:	\$22,006.00
From Culinary:	\$16,865.00

Year-to-date total for Zion's mission/ministries: \$191,494.09

\* Thrift Store donates half of income to Outreach total income - \$19,365.68

*Thank you for your gifts. Your gifts allow us to share the word of God and the love of Jesus with our congregation and our community.*

*Please note that the church office will be closed December 25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup>, January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are in need of assistance please leave a message, the answering machine will be checked periodically. Thank You!*

*We extend our Christian Love and Sympathy to the family and friends of James Bynon, who passed away on December 15, 2024. We ask God to comfort the family at this time. Please keep them in your prayers.*

## GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

**ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and  
In loving memory of James Bynon by Mark & Charlene Valentine & family  
In loving memory of Dodie Whitenight by Judy & Sonia  
In honor of Sonia & Lisa's Birthdays by Judy

In loving memory of Dodie Whitenight by Anne Whitenight

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

Birthday remembrance for Mr. E.A. Follweiler from his children and their families

In loving memory of Dodie Whitenight by John & Carol Dietrich & family

In loving memory of family & friends by John & Carol Dietrich & family

In loving memory of Jim Bynon by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mehalko.

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

In loving memory of Dodie Whitenight by Sandy Scott

## Upcoming Events

**December 22** – Holiday Fellowship Potluck

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

**January 1** – New Year Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner

*Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsors needed for 2025 - The Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsor list for 2025 is on the bulletin board. The costs of the flowers are \$42.40 and individuals will be billed from the florist. The cost of the bulletin sponsorship is \$16.00 and monies are due when you place your name on the list. You can also sponsor the Candles for the month at \$40. Please remember to fill out a card with your honorarium or memorial, this information is needed for the bulletin. Please do not sign up without filling out a form. These sponsorships are on a first come first serve basis; this is to ensure that everyone has equal opportunity to sponsor these memorials. Please contact the church office if you have questions. Thank you in advance for your sponsorship!*

**Attention Committees:** All committee chairpersons are reminded to submit a report outlining the activities of your committee in 2024 for the annual report. These reports are to be submitted to the church office no later than January 12, 2025. You can e-mail the church office at [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net) or stop by the office. Thank you for your co-operation.

From Zion Council and the Parish  
Staff may you and your family have  
a blessed Christmas and a  
Happy and Healthy New Year.



# ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

A REMINDER FROM THE TREASURER AND FINANCIAL SECRETARY...

The financial books of Zion will close on

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Remember, All contributions RECEIVED after that date will be credited to your  
2025 financial statements

***Happy New Year 2025*** - Zion will host a Community Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner New Year's Day, 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm or when all dinners are given out. Dinners will be served, eat in or take-out. Orders can be placed by calling Mary Ruth at 570-668-4451 or order on the Zion website and Facebook page. A Free will offering will be accepted. Everyone Welcome!!

Donations of gallon and quart freezer bags are urgently needed for the kitchen. Please put them on the counter in the kitchen or give them to a member of culinary. Thank you for your donations!

## Christmas Eve

CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

You are invited to join us for our Christmas Eve services on Tuesday, December 24, 2024 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 the observance of the Nativity of Our Lord.

