



Calendar

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:00am LBW Large Print
1:00pm Weekly Newsletter Deadline
6:35pm Mom's In Prayer

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

12:00pm Advent Worship
6:30pm Advent Worship
7:15pm Confirmation, Wednesday Table Talks,
Kid's JAM, and Living Faith & Desert Voice

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

10:00am Staff Devotions/Meeting
11:30am Caring Friends
1:00pm LBW Large Print
6:30pm Festival Ringers
7:30pm Sanctuary Choir

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

1:30pm Church Office Closes

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

5:00pm Informal Worship

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:40am Sunday School Education—Adults only
10:50am Contemporary Worship
4:00pm Family Christmas Eve Worship
10:00pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

ZECC Closed
Church Office Closed
10:00am Christmas Day

When We Last Gathered December 9 & 10

Attendance	246
General	\$8,166.03
Missions	\$514.00
Building Fund	\$1,428.00
Dedicated	\$427.51

For Next Week—December 23 & 24

Readers

Tim Bodin, 5:00pm
Bob Shorten, 8:30am



Acolytes

Margo Brettin, 5:00pm
Jonah Schultz, 8:30am

Altar Care

Darlene Klug & Amy McCutcheon



Today at Zion

Message Theme
“Why Are You Here?”
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Scriptures

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, p. 620
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, p. 988
John 1:6-8, 19-28, p. 886
John 1:6-8, 19-28, p. 886 (10:50)

Worship Leaders

Pastor Dan Schultz, Message & Liturgist; Praise Leader (10:50)
Pastor Randall Neal, Liturgist (8:30)
Brice Petersen, Director of Parish Music
Sanctuary Choir (8:30)
Desert Voice & Living Faith (10:50)
Vicki Peterson, Reader (8:30)
Ethan Adam, Worship Assistant (10:50)
Brian Olson, Slide Technician (5:00)
Dan Ahlman, Slide Technician (8:30)
Ben Monskey, Slide Technician (10:50)
Bethany Cacka & Travis Beal, Acolytes (8:30)
Wayne Koester, Elder (5:00 & 10:50)
Dave Erdmann, Elder (8:30)
Craig Ahlman, Associate Elder (5:00)
Rudy Niemiec, Associate Elder (8:30)
Richard Thorson, Associate Elder (10:50)
Darlene Klug & Amy McCutcheon, Altar Care

Hymns

5:00pm

Children's Christmas Service

8:30am

Prelude: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”, Arr. David Johnson, Organ
LSB 338, “Light One Candle”, LSB 357, LSB 345, LSB 333, LSB 349,
LSB 621, LSB 636, LSB 387, LSB 349

Offering: “An Advent Processional”, Arr. D. Pearson, Sanctuary Choir
Postlude: “On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry”, Arr. A.D. Miller, Organ

10:50am

Gathering: “Let Your Kingdom Come”, Living Faith & Desert Voice
“Prepare Ye the Way”, “Advent Hymn”, “Unstoppable God”,
Communion: “Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”
“Build Your Kingdom Here”

STAFF:

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December 17, 2017

Zion Lutheran Church & Early Childhood Center
241 5th Avenue North ☩ Hopkins, MN 55343
952.938.7661 ☩ www.zionhopkins.org



News & Notes

FIRST TIME HERE? - Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church! We are so glad to have you worshipping with us. We hope your experience today connects you to the life-changing love of Jesus Christ. Please let us know you're here by filling out the “Friendship Register” located at the end of each pew. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you find what you're looking for right here.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Saturday Worship: Informal 5:00pm *Holy Communion is celebrated*
Sunday Worship: Traditional 8:30am *the first and third weekends.*
Contemporary 10:50am

Education Hour: 9:40am

CHILDREN AT WORSHIP

We are pleased to have children at worship. We have quiet activity bags for use during worship. They are available in the entry area at the rear of the church. There is also a “Children's Room” in the rear of the church for those wishing to stay with their children and still participate in the worship service. A nursery is open but unstaffed on the lower level on Sunday mornings.

ASSISTED LISTENING SYSTEM—Hearing enhancement devices are available at all services; obtain one by asking an usher to direct you to one of our Elders.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER (ATTENDANCE)

Please take a moment to clearly fill in the attendance sheet located in the maroon folder found near the center aisle in each pew so we may know how best to serve you.

LISTEN TO WORSHIP ONLINE OR WITH A CD—A free CD of today's 8:30 traditional worship service is available during the week in the Coat room, or sermons are available at www.zionhopkins.org under the “Online worship” *Quick link*.

MOBILE FINANCIAL GIVING TO ZION (Smartphone Users)

- Online: Scan Zion's QR code which takes you to Zion's web page then click on Donate Online.
- Give by Text: Send a text message to 952-260-0635 with the dollar amount you want to give; wait for a reply message, click on the link, enter your details. For future donations send text message to the same text number.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 4:30pm
Friday 9:30am - 1:30pm
952.938.7661 Visit us online at www.zionhopkins.org.

ZION EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ZECC)

A nurturing and loving environment for the growth and development of your child, ages 6 weeks to Pre-K.
Monday - Friday 7am - 6pm
952.938.7661 ext. 21

Prayers

In your personal devotions, please pray for those in our Body of Christ who have requested your prayers and praises:

PRAYERS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING FOR: 18th birthday Bobby Wilson, Bruce Wilson graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design, birthday of Steve Nelson, 42nd wedding anniversary of Rich & Mary Daniels.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, HEALING, AND STRENGTH FOR: Gene Bachman, Eric Olson, Allie Skaalerud (granddaughter of Janice Struthers & niece of Gary & Bonnie Shelton), Roger Henke, Julie Hendrickson, Cheyenne Hulscher (great niece of John Herkenratt), Isabel Kloss, Roberta Seefeldt (friend of Phyllis Olson), Carol Herkenratt (mother of John Herkenratt), Chris Ruggiero (son-in-law of Brenda Walsten), Markus Bachman (grandson of Gene & Carolyn Bachman), Scott Olson (son of Pat Mattson & nephew of Paula Rosengren), Margaret Riley, Roger Matson (brother-in-law of Wendy Ahles), Brian Olson, Norine Francis-Michels (sister of Nita Ahlman), Mary Hagan, Katie Tidler (niece of Bruce & Herman Loeffler), Jan Loehr, Darlene Best, Dan Damschen, Lori Wildermuth (daughter of Evelyn Wildermuth), Don Ahlman, Leroy Peterson, Carol Larson, Nita Larson.

PRAYERS FOR ZION: That God would continue to bless Zion Lutheran Church and allow us to be a blessing to our community; that He would abundantly provide the resources needed for faithful ministry.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL CONCERNS FOR: Missionaries: Rev. Cullen & Deaconess Jacqueline Duke; for those in the Armed Forces; for all people in this current economic downturn, especially those for whom employment, credit, investments and housing have been adversely affected; for those affected by natural & manmade disasters.

PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND PEACE FOR: family of David Kothe (brother of Naomi Wold), family of Kitty Cho (aunt of Matt Kan).

PRAYERS FOR ZION MEMBER FAMILIES: Each week the Ministry Team at Zion meet to coordinate the many different ministries here at Zion and to pray for individual families. This past week we prayed for: Sammy & Joan Smith; Tammy Spencer; Randall Stack; Jordan, Abby, Owen & Ryan Stans; Bill & Sue Stans.

PRAYER WARRIORS: (ZIPS) “Zion in Prayer on Saturday” meets monthly on the 1st Saturday from 9:00am–10:00am in the Fireside Room (#102) where they pray for everyone on our prayer list and then some. Everyone is welcome. January 6th is the next gathering. Contact Karen 952-935-4356 or Carolyn 952-935-5909 with questions.

MOMS IN PRAYER Our children need our prayer support. Come pray with other women for one hour each week. We will be praying each Tuesday evening at 6:35pm in Room 205. More information is available at the Information Center or from Barb Kan.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

- Submit in writing, phone into the church office, by email, or via our website at www.zionhopkins.org
- Prayers may also be submitted to the prayer circle by calling Corrine Gust at 952-974-3846.
- Anniversary, birthday, wedding, and thanksgiving prayers will normally be included for one week.
- Medical and special concerns may be included for longer as needed. Be sure to keep us informed on any updates or changes to your loved ones condition.

Zion Happenings



SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our students presented “Silent Night, Holy Night” to share the good news of the birth of our Savior with family and friends. Thanks to the students for all their work and to all the adults who helped the children prepare for the service. Students used boomwackers to play along with Joy to the World. Several of the students played preservice music. Congratulations to the 3 and 4 year old class and the K/1 class for perfect attendance last week. Today we are celebrating the birth of Jesus in our classrooms. We are going to learn how the blessing bags we sent to Guatemala have been used to benefit families in the Bunk Bed Ministry. Class will resume on January 7.

EVER WONDERED WHAT THE INITIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE IS FOR? In the January-February offering envelope packet, there is an envelope marked Initial Offering. The funds collected from the Initial Offering are used to offset the cost of printing and mailing offering envelopes. In 2017, we received \$520 for the Initial Offering. The total annual cost for offering envelopes is approximately \$1,340. If everyone who receives offering envelopes gave \$4 for the Initial offering, we would have the funds to pay for offering envelopes for all of 2018.



NO QUILTING IN JANUARY 2018. Please join us again in February.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT - John 1:6-8, 19-28 (Dec. 17) “You can see that St. John is a faithful and truthful witness, who does not attract the people to himself but directs them to Christ and says: ‘The purpose of my preaching is to persuade you to prepare a way for the Lord and to make His way straight. Furthermore I am baptizing you with water; but at the same time I want to tell you that my Successor, who is far more excellent and the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie, will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire (Luke 3:16). Thus you now hear and see that all I say and do merely points to Him, to Christ the Lord.’” LW 22:127

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION takes place today. Those desiring to be guests at the Lord’s Table must 1) Believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord; 2) Confess their sin, seek the assurance of forgiveness, and intend, with God’s help, to amend their sinful life; 3) Believe that Christ is really present in this Sacrament. *If you are unsure of what has been stated here, or if you have not been baptized, or if you are unable to answer yes to any of these questions, please speak with the pastor before communing. For the benefit of communicants who are allergic to alcohol or who have dependency problems, several individual cups containing white grape juice with a slight tincture of wine are included in the center of each communion tray (5:00pm & 8:30am) or the center chalice [large cup](10:50am). If you would like more information you may pick up a brochure on the subject at the Information Center tract rack in the Gathering Area.*



Zion Happenings

SUNDAY TABLE TALKS—TODAY Pastor Dan concludes the 5-part conclusion to the “A Man Named Martin” series with “Part 3: The Movement”. The Reformation has had an enormous influence on every area of life—on religion, politics, education, family life, and the world of work. Most of this was unintentional, at least on a human level, and both good and evil came of it. Yet God was doing His work, bringing thousands and, ultimately, billions of people to the knowledge of their Savior Jesus Christ and to saving faith in Him. Join us in the Fireside Room (#102) between services during the Education Hour for an exciting look into how the Reformation has shaped you and me.



THE NATIVITY STORY—December 20—following the Advent Service, in the Fireside Room. Advent is the season of celebration and preparation for Jesus’ birth. Come worship with us at the 6:30pm Advent service and then stay to watch the movie “The Nativity”. See the faith of Mary and Joseph and the plots of King Herod in the months leading up to the coming of the Messiah. Hot chocolate and cookies provided!

TABLE TALKS CHRISTMAS EVE DAY - Please join us to hear about “The Real St. Nick: Leader, Legend or Lie” where we will examine a man who, next to Jesus Christ, is the most visible figure during the holidays—St. Nicholas or Santa Claus—as we know him in Western culture. Dating back to the third century, St. Nick is attributed with the doing of many benevolent and charitable acts of kindness and generosity. Grab a coffee and join your brothers and sisters in Christ in the Fireside room at 9:40am on Christmas Eve morning between the services.

JOIN US FOR A CHRISTMAS COOKIE POTLUCK on Sunday, December 24th at 9:40am between the morning services in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring one dozen Christmas cookies ready to share. Coffee and apple cider will be provided. What is your favorite Christmas cookie?

2017 TITHES & OFFERINGS All titles and offerings need to be in to the church office by December 31, 2017 in order to be counted for 2017 tax purposes.

DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE:

- **Advent Midweek Services—Wednesday, December 20—Noon and 6:30pm**

Christmas Eve Services:

Sunday, December 24:

- Family Christmas Eve Service, 4:00pm
- Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 10:00pm

Christmas Day Service

Monday, December 25, 10:00am

New Year’s Eve Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 31, 5:00pm

Please note: We will have regular weekend services December 23-24 and December 30-31