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THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Sunday of Jesus in the Temple at Twelve Years Old

January 6, 2024

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
The First Sunday after the Epiphany
January 6, 2024

Wenona, Illinois
Rev. Jonathan P. Boehne (Vacancy Pastor)
Phone: 309.361.7578 Email: jonboehne@hotmail.com

WELCOME to all who are worshipping with us. If you are a guest, please sign the guest book, including your home address and congregation. We welcome to our altar all those who share our confession of faith within the fellowship of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.



INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

THE OPENING HYMN:	“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”	Hymn # 395
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THE INVOCATION		pg. 151
THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION		pg. 151
THE INTROIT	(chanted responsively by whole verse)	Psalm 100
THE KYRIE		pg. 152
THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY		pg. 156
THE THEME HYMN:	“The People That in Darkness Sat”	Hymn # 412
THE OLD TESTAMENT READING		
THE EPISTLE		
THE ALLELUIA		pg. 156
THE HOLY GOSPEL		
HYMN OF THE DAY:	“Within the Father's House”	Hymn # 410
THE SERMON:	(see sermon insert)	
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THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH		
THE OFFERTORY:	“What Shall I Render to the Lord”	pg. 159
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THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:	“Thank the Lord”	pg. 164
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THE BENEDICTION		pg. 166
THE CLOSING HYMN:	“From East to West”	Hymn # 385



The offering plate is on the table in the narthex. Thank you for your continued contributions.

IN OUR PRAYERS, we remember Starr Barke, Kristin Bosteels, Vic Bosteels, Dwayne Brewer, Sr., Robert Jones, Marion McKnight, Amy Schwanke, Neil Schwanke, Bill Simmons, Loretta Stoeger, Sally Thomas, Sally Tidmarsh, Andy Volker, Cindy Volker, Mildred Ward, and Ken Welch, all of whom are dealing with health problems. We ask God to provide for the pastoral and financial needs of this congregation.

THIS WEEK AT ZION AND ST. PAUL'S:

TODAY (SATURDAY)	Zion Service with Holy Communion	5:00PM
SUNDAY	St. Paul's Service with Holy Communion	8:30AM
	St. Paul's Sunday School and Bible class	9:45AM
MONDAY	Zion Bible class	9:00AM
SATURDAY	Zion Service with Holy Communion	5:00PM
SUNDAY	St. Paul's Service with Holy Communion	8:30AM
	St. Paul's Sunday School and Bible class	9:45AM

ATTENDANCE last week: N/A Holy Communion: N/A
(Zion needs about \$1,157 in weekly offerings to cover expenses)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

At the start of the service today Zion's recently re-elected and re-appointed congregational officers will be inducted. They are: Jason Lenhausen, Elder; Robert Morris, Trustee; and Terry Hoge, Chairman & Acting Treasurer.

Remember the Wenona Food Pantry as it helps needy families in our area. Please bring a food item next week when you come to church.

Pastor Mark Gruden will be leading the Saturday night service on January 13, February 17, and March 9. He will generally do one Saturday each month and Pastor Boehne will do the others.

Zion's Bible Study will meet this Monday at 9am. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Beginning today and continuing until further notice, the Sunday worship time at St. Paul's in Varna is 8:30AM, with Sunday School and Bible Study following from 9:45 to 10:45.

From Pastor Boehne As your vacancy pastor, I'm here to serve you as much as I'm able. Please call me if you or someone you know is in the hospital or can't make it to Church for any reason. If you need prayers, please call me. I plan to be here at Zion every Saturday by 4pm so that any of you can come early to talk to me if needed. I can also be available before or after Bible study on Monday mornings if you call or text me. **309-361-7578**

Isaiah 42:1-9

¹[Thus says the Lord God:]

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,

my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

I have put my Spirit upon him;

he will bring forth justice to the nations.

²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,

or make it heard in the street;

³a bruised reed he will not break,

and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;

he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged

till he has established justice in the earth;

and the coastlands wait for his law.

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,

who created the heavens and stretched them out,

who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people on it

and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;

I will take you by the hand and keep you;

I will give you as a covenant for the people,

a light for the nations,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,

from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the LORD; that is my name;

my glory I give to no other,

nor my praise to carved idols.

⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass,

and new things I now declare;

before they spring forth

I tell you of them."

Romans 12:1-6a

¹[Brethren:] I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Luke 2:42-52

⁴²[At that time:] When Jesus was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.