

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, 15 S 4th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

Church Website: www.zionharrisburg.org

November 29, 2023 WOW (Worship On Wednesday) 12:10pm Service of the Word

Advent & Christmas with the Saints

Week 1: St. Andrew, Apostle (transferred from November 30)

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

L: The days are coming, says the Lord, when God's promises to Israel and Judah will be fulfilled. Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship, in the name of the Father, the Son, + and the Holy Spirit. (Jeremiah 33:14)

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: The Lord proclaimed, "Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me." Let us take this time to examine ourselves, asking for forgiveness for the things which we have done that are not pleasing to the Lord and the things which we have neglected. (Malachi 3:1)

(Silence for personal confession)

L: God of grace,

C: we confess that we have not been attentive to the urgent call to prepare for the coming of your Son. Prepare our hearts to follow Jesus in doing your holy will. Forgive us, we pray, and shape our lives according to the cross of Christ who has called us to walk in his ways. Restore us to a right relationship with you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L: In the name of Jesus, God's only Son who came to do the will of his Father, you are forgiven. By Christ's holy sacrifice your sins are wiped clean and you are made right with our heavenly Father. Rejoice in this free gift and take it to heart.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Lighting the 1st Candle on the Advent Wreath

L: Let us pray: We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **C: Amen.**

Gospel Reading: John 1:35-42

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and

they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). ⁴² He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter).

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray: Almighty God, by Your grace the apostle Andrew obeyed the call of Your Son to be a disciple. Grant us also to follow the same Lord Jesus Christ in heart and life, who lives and reigns with Your and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Reflection

The Prayers

L: Show us your mercy, O Lord,

C: **and grant us your salvation.**

L: Clothe your ministers with righteousness.

C: **Let your people sing with joy.**

L: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world,

C: **for only in you can we live in safety.**

L: Lord, keep this nation under your care.

C: **and guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

L: Let your way be known upon the earth;

C: **your saving health among all nations.**

L: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten,

C: **nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

L: Create in us clean hearts, O God,

C: **and sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

L: *Additional petitions offered...*

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and reach us to pray:

C: 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.

Blessing & Dismissal

L: As you go from this place, remember that with God, nothing is impossible. May God the Father, Son, + and Holy Spirit go before you, beside you, and with you wherever you go. (Luke 1:37)

C: Amen.

L: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

WOW Series: "Advent & Christmas with the Saints"

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| 11/29 | St. Andrew, Apostle |
| 12/6 | St. Nicholas of Myra, Pastor |
| 12/13 | Lucia, Martyr <i>*Special Christmas Music</i> |
| 12/20 | Katharina von Bora Luther |
| 12/27 | <i>St. John, Apostle & Evangelist *Pre-recorded; WOW does NOT meet live</i> |

WOW (Worship On Wednesday) 12:10pm Service & Lunch Fellowship

12:10pm Service of Word & Prayer (in-person & online)

Service of Holy Communion on 1st Wednesday of the month

12:35pm Lunch Fellowship (in-person only)

*****WOW HOLIDAY CANCELLATION: Dec. 27*****