

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

Church Website: www.zionharrisburg.org

Pre-recorded Prayer Service available at church website listed above

December 27, 2023 WOW (Worship On Wednesday) 12:10pm Service of the Word

Advent & Christmas with the Saints

Week 5: St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

P The true Light which gives light to everyone, has come into the world.

C The very Son of God is Jesus, our Emmanuel.

P The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

C The Virgin Mary's first-born Son is Jesus, our Emmanuel.

P To all who receive Him, who believe in His Name, He gives power to become the children of God.

C The Savior, Christ, is born. God is with us, Emmanuel.

P The life He brings gives life to all people.

C We have seen His glory, the glory of the Father's only Son.

P Glory to God in the Highest and peace to His people on earth.

Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us; the love of the Father who created us in his own image; and the communion of the Holy Spirit, the giver of all good gifts, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray: Merciful Lord, cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed in the doctrine of Your blessed apostle and evangelist John, may come to the light of everlasting life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Epistle Reading: 1 John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and

indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Readings from the Holy Gospel according to St. John

1:1-7

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

21:20-25

²⁰ Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" ²¹ When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" ²² Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!" ²³ So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?" ²⁴ This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true. ²⁵ Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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 and Sending

L: Great are the works of the Lord. Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. Go now in the name of God Most High: Father, Son, and + Holy Spirit. (Psalm 111)

C: Amen.

L: Go in peace! God's Word has been fulfilled.

C: Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOW Series: "Advent & Christmas with the Saints"

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*****

12/31	Sunday	9am Sunday School & 10:15am Worship Service
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LOOKING AHEAD IN 2024 - HIGHLIGHTS

**Wednesday, January 3 12:10 – 12:35pm WOW (Worship on Wednesday) Resumes
Communion & Lunch Fellowship after worship
SEASON AFTER EPIPHANY: Order of Worship based on 1 John**

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

Details continue on next page...

**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)

Sunday, January 7 10:15am FESTIVAL BAPTISM OF OUR LORD - COMMUNION

**Wednesday, February 14 12:10pm ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
Imposition of Ashes & Communion**

Sunday, February 18 10:15am 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT – COMMUNION (3rd Sunday)

Wednesday, February 21 WOW LENTEN Series “Promised Treasures” Begins

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These alternate prayers are provided for those who would like to use liturgical petitions and responses specific to the season of Christmas. Permission is granted to active subscribers of the Sola Online Worship Resource Site to print, cut and paste, and reproduce these prayers for local congregational use.