

Worship Services

Sundays

8:30am Traditional
9:40 Education Hour
10:45am Contemporary

Office Hours

Parish Administrator in
the office Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday

Our Mission

With the assurance of
God's faithfulness, we'll
† nurture disciples,
† extend healing and
compassion, and
† work for justice in our
communities and
throughout the world.

Our Vision

Gathered by the grace
and love of Jesus Christ,
the people of Mt Zion
commit to know God
deeply and to serve God
gladly through the many
and diverse gifts given to
us by the Holy Spirit.

Marks of Discipleship

- † **PRAY** daily
- † **WORSHIP** weekly
- † **READ** the Bible
- † **SERVE** at Mt Zion and
beyond
- † Be in **RELATIONSHIP**
to encourage spiritual
growth in others
- † **GIVE** of my time, tal-
ents, and resources

**ALL ARE
WELCOME!**



CHRISTMAS EVE

Two Ways to Worship!

4:00PM

**"CAROLS AND COMMUNION"
OUTDOORS
IN THE PARKING LOT**

8:00PM

**"LESSONS, CAROLS, AND A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE"
INDOORS
ONLINE ONLY
[YOUTUBE.COM/MTZIONLUTHERAN](https://www.youtube.com/mtzionlutheran)**



Outdoor Christmas Eve Service

Bring the family, get into your car and join us at the Carols and Communion Service at 4 pm on Christmas Eve. We'll all keep a safe distance, but still be able to get together to sing Christmas Carols and have Communion together. Here are some tips for attending:

Enter Mt Zion parking lot at the 120th Street Entrance and follow directions to your parking space

Communion will be distributed upon entering

You may either choose to stay in your car with the windows open or bring chairs to put in front of your car.

Wear masks. Please stay a safe distance from anyone outside of your family

Bring blankets, warm clothing, boots, hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, warm beverages so your family can stay warm and comfortable

The service will end with candle lighting. Our December wind would probably blow out regular candles, so be prepared with an alternative light – cellphone, flashlight, electric candle, lantern, etc.

Pat Campbell

Volunteer Schedule

Here are the people who are volunteering through in December and January

AV	Money stewards
Dec. 6: Marciniaks	Tom E. and Gary G.
Dec. 13 Marciniaks	Morgan and Hext
Dec. 20: Douglas J.	Pete P., John L., Roy D
Dec. 27: Prerecorded	Nancy and Engelhardt
Jan. 3. Douglas J	TBD
Jan. 10: Merry and Mitch	Morgans and Hexts
Jan. 17: Perrie and Doug	Pete, John, and Roy
Jan. 24: Matt and Ethan	Nancy and Engelhardt
Jan. 31: Erik and Abby	Tom, Jim, and Gary

This Week at Mt Zion

<p>Sun December 20</p>	<p>8:30a Traditional Worship youtube.com/mtzionlutheran Meeting ID: 841 6597 2335 password 12012</p> <p>9:40a Faith Formation Hour (Adult, Youth and Sunday School)</p> <p>10:45a Contemporary Worship www.youtube.com/mtzionlutheran Meeting ID 875 7308 8960 password 12012</p> <p>5:00p Youth Group Wartburgseminary.zoom.us/j/6455652349</p>
<p>Mon December 21</p>	<p>12:12p 12 Minutes of Prayer of Facebook</p> <p>6:00p Leadership Board</p> <p>7:00p NA 12-steps group alternate location while closed</p>
<p>Tues December 22</p>	<p>10:00a Staff Meeting</p> <p>12:00p AA 12 Steps Meeting continues virtually</p>
<p>Wed December 23</p>	<p>12:00p Brown Bag Bible Study on Zoom Meeting ID 84924897122 Password 12012</p> <p>1:00p Prayer Warriors (same login as Brown Bag Bible Study)</p>
<p>Thurs December 24</p>	<p>Christmas Eve</p> <p>12:12p 12 Minutes of Prayer of Facebook</p> <p>4:00p “Carols and Communion” Service Outside - Mt Zion Parking Lot</p> <p>8:00p “Lessons, Carols and Christmas Message” www.youtube.com/mtzionlutheran</p> 
<p>Fri December 25</p>	<p>Christmas Day!</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>7:00p ACA 12-Step Group Meeting Remotely</p> <p>7:30p Essay 12-Step Group Meeting Virtually</p> 
<p>Sat December 26</p>	<p>8:30a Women of Heart Bible Study on Zoom Meeting ID: 849 6940 2756 Passcode: 12012</p>
<p>Sun December 27</p>	<p>8:30a Traditional Worship in-person and on YouTube</p> <p>10:45a Contemporary Worship in-person and on YouTube</p>



Advent Devotional 2020
Week 3



Advent Blessing to you all!

This week we arrive at our final week of Advent – we anxiously wait for Christmas morning when we celebrate the coming of Jesus – “GOD WITH US”! That’s right! God in Jesus comes to US by putting on skin, joining us in the flesh by the power of the Holy Spirit to live among us. In this way, as God became truly human, God in Jesus felt hunger, weariness, happiness, despair, stress, grief and even abandonment.

Today in the reading from 2 Samuel, a messenger of God, Nathan, is having a conversation with King David, God’s beloved. David is feeling like he has let God down because God “lives in a tent” but David lives in a beautiful house made of cedar – which was a big deal back in David’s day! David wants to build God a house of cedar too. Nathan explains to David that God cannot be contained – God does not live in a house, a temple, a church, or a synagogue!

God has made us with beautiful imaginations that love to read books about villains and heroines, or comic books featuring powerful superheroes. Our imaginations help us to play video games featuring alternate realities like soccer-playing cars with the power to fly, or simulation games that create new home environments and lifestyles– we use this gift of imagination and wonder! God gave this to us, and IT IS GOOD!

If we try to make sense out of flying cars that play soccer or kids that fly around a place called HOGWARTS on brooms playing “quidditch”, we will come up short. **Some things are just unexplainable.**

Maybe that is what Nathan was trying to tell King David; God cannot be contained or easily explained! The triune God, Father, Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are One, One who is Love, One who is coming here to be with us... to dwell with us as a human and to die for us to bond us to Godself forever. That One does not have one place to live, rather that One lives in ALL creation.

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 4)

Take a deep breath, settle your heart as you begin to read this text. What do you notice, patterns, words – what is tugging at YOUR heart?

2 Samuel 7:1-11

7 After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 2 he said to Nathan the prophet, “Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.”

3 Nathan replied to the king, “Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you.”

4 But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying:

5 “Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? 6 I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. 7 Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’”

8 “Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. 10 And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning 11 and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders [a] over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

“The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me[a]; your throne will be established forever.”

Christmas Has a Heart



An Alternative Christmas Market

Do you want your Christmas celebration to **include gifts that bring service, hope and love to our neighbors in the Milwaukee Metropolitan area**? Consider participating in Christmas Has a Heart 2020. It will be presented differently this year since there can't be a physical market space. Instead, the Shopping List for our guest organizations will be available here in Grace Notes.

Part of the excitement of Christmas Has a Heart is the opportunity to meet the people actually involved in the mission, and we don't want you to miss that. Each organization will share a short video to be shown during worship in December so you can "meet" some of the people involved and hear directly from Kids Matter, MICAH, Outreach for Hope, Project Return, Reformation Lutheran Church, and Tosa Cares.

See how you may participate in the Christmas Has A Heart 2020 Alternative Christmas Market in the insert with your Grace Notes.

The Mt Zion Outreach Ministry Team

HOW TO DONATE

1. Donate online.
2. Mail donation directly to organization(s).
3. Send donation(s) through Mt Zion. Include donation designations.



Sponsored by the Outreach Ministry Team of Mt Zion Lutheran Church



For Those Who have Sorrow or Hurt This Christmas

Christmas is a time of joy, but sometimes sorrow, pain, and brokenness mingle with those feelings. Whatever the source of your lament, know that you are part of our prayers at Mt Zion this Christmas.

If you are in need of a place to bring your lament before God, you are invited to take part in the **Longest Night Gathering** on **Monday, December 21st at 8pm**. The service will be a quiet and meditative worship featuring liturgy and scripture, music by The Many, and a safe space to share experience. No one need bear their pain alone; on the longest night of the year, please gather with this supportive community and give your sorrow into God's redeeming arms.

To attend, go to www.eventbrite.com/e/129399476317 and register by December 20th (you must register at least 1 day in advance). A small donation is required to attend, but it may be as small as \$1. This event is sponsored by the Wisconsin Council of Churches, of which our synod is a member.

Pastor Tyler

Save the date

Black History Month Event

MICAH We Rise: Building a Healthy Community.

Healthcare will be focus.

Thursday Feb 11th. 7-8pm

COVID-19 Testing Sites

In addition to your health care provider's office, there are three drive-through sites for COVID-19 testing open to the public:

- ◆ **Miller Park**, 1 Brewers Way - open Mon. through Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (close November 26)
- ◆ **Northwest Health Center**, 7630 W. Mill Road (enter at Mill Road Library 6431 N. 76th) - open Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wed. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ◆ **Southside Health Center**, 1639 S. 23rd St. (north parking lot) - open Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wed. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ◆ For a full list of community testing sites, go to <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community-testing.htm>

Mt Zion Zoom meetings 2020-2021

TIME	EVENT	MZ LOCATION	ZOOM MEETING ID	PASSWORD
SUNDAYS				
8:30a	<i>Traditional Service*</i>	Sanctuary	841 6597 2335**	12012
9:40a	<i>Adult Faith Formation</i>	Upper Room	868 1235 8587	12012
9:40a	<i>Preschool to 2nd grade</i>	Hearth Room	786 9962 1972	Gf3avC
9:40a	<i>Youth Faith Formation</i>	Nursery	645 565 2349	none
10:10a	<i>Sunday School Grades 3-5</i>	Hearth Room	786 9962 1972	tSU4vZ
10:45a	<i>Contemporary Service*</i>	Sanctuary	875 7308 8960 **	12012
5:00p	<i>Confirmation</i> (alternate Sun.)	Youth Room	961 4948 4331	181755
5:00p	<i>Youth Group</i> (alternate Sun.)	Youth Room	645 565 2349	none
MONDAYS				
7:00p	<i>Mt Zion Book Club</i> (4 th Mon.)		862 1576 4558	12012
TUESDAYS				
6:00p	<i>Writer's Circle</i> (1 st & 3 rd Tues.)		829 2787 8248	12012
WEDNESDAYS				
12:00p	<i>Brown Bag Bible Study</i>	Upper Room	849 2489 7122	12012
1:00p	<i>Prayer Warriors</i>		849 2489 7122	12012
6:30p	<i>Prayer Service</i>	Upper Room	861 3409 5569	12012
THURSDAYS				
5:00p	<i>Beer & Bible</i> (1 st & 3 rd Thurs)	Upper Room	835 6456 0076	12012
SATURDAYS				
8:30a	<i>Women of Heart</i>		849 6940 2756	12012

*Also on YouTube – Mt Zion Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa, WI



You can join us for worship at home by just using your phone.

Call 312-626-6799

1. Enter the Meeting ID (see below) followed by #
2. You have no Participant ID, so just press # again
3. Enter the Passcode (see below) followed by #



Sundays at 8:30am
Meeting ID:
841 6597 2335
Passcode 12012

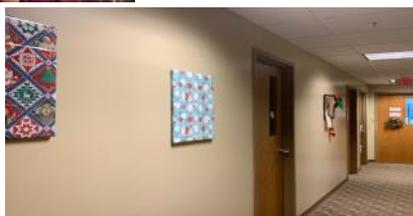
Sundays at 10:45am
Meeting ID:
875 7308 8960
Passcode 12012

Then listen to worship!

To join Adult Faith Formation Hour at 9:40am
Meeting ID 868 1235 8587
Passcode 12012



The office got into the Christmas spirit. Thanks to everyone who sent cards! Jess' tree doesn't light in the middle. Just glad to have one! #2020



Science Tidbits

One of the great challenges of prosecuting attorneys in cases of child abuse is getting the children to testify. It is difficult to build a successful case if the child is unable or unwilling to give his/her side of the story. Enter courtroom dogs.



These dogs are well-trained to aid traumatized individuals who have suffered physical or sexual abuse and are asked in a forensics interview or witness stand testimony to describe the horrific acts perpetrated against them. The dogs are so in tune to the emotional needs of others that they can provide emotional support and comfort that enable the victim to perform the seemingly impossible task before them. Though it often takes weeks of counseling and interaction with courtroom dogs, the transformation in the victim's confidence and resolve can be striking.

Interviewers need to stay neutral and can't behave in a way that could be seen as leading a child in a certain narrative direction. But having a dog lying next to them is a legally neutral way to make the child more comfortable and relaxed. And when children are intimidated by an adult, they are often told to look at the dog and talk to it directly.

Many perpetrators think they can get away with abusing young children, thinking the young victims can be scared into keeping mum about what happened to them. But a dog can totally change that. And the interesting thing is that a dog can even spare the child from having to testify in court. A defense attorney who witnesses the warm relationship that has developed between a victim and the courtroom dog can have second thoughts about taking the case to trial.

A courtroom dog's role at trial is simply to lie down near the child in the witness box. The child may occasionally reach down to pet the dog, and little children sometimes rest their feet on him/her. The dogs stay mellow, but are protective of the kids, and some have been known to show displeasure at defense attorney tactics. In one case, when a defense attorney was raising her voice to a child, the courthouse dog, a chocolate lab, sat up and stared at her silently. And he just kept staring at her until she lowered her voice, whereupon he laid back down.

In another case, a sixteen-year-old girl who had been terribly mistreated by an older man, could not look at him when told while on the witness stand she had to do so to identify him. She was emotionally overcome, but upon reaching down and stroking the dog next to her, slowly found the strength and confidence to do so. Every time she struggled with her testimony, she reached down and touched the dog and was eventually able to stare down the accused.

Said one judge: 'It's intimidating to come into a courtroom. But there's something about having a dog there. I recommend this 100 percent to other judges.' [sometimes dogs can be too comforting as you can see on the accompanying video link (I should know; we've had two vizslas):

<https://petrage.net/trying-to-read-with-my-vizsla/>

The Back Pew Music Edition



“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”



Instrumental Version (Piano and Cello)
By The Piano Guys — filmed on a movie set

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iO7ySn-Swwc>

Vocal Version (English and Hebrew)
By Anna Hawkins — filmed in Israel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MD-iBLZSZNU>



Great to see Mary on Keyboard
and Joseph on vocals, on this
year's Christmas Stamp



One of
Pastor Tyler's
Faves

“Night of Silence”

Vocals—includes lyrics
By Gonzaga University
Choir

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=bcXfM-wc30c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcXfM-wc30c)

If you have never heard Straight No Chaser's
“12 Days of Christmas” it is one of the most impres-
sive holiday medley's sung A Capella. It includes such favorites as
“Carol of the Bells”, “Decks the Halls”, “Dreidel” and “Rudolph the
Red-Nosed Reindeer”. It's an fun 3 and a half minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Fe11OIMiz8>



December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Kenneth S 12/1
Bradley S. 12/6
Lorre G. 12/8
Kelly R. 12/9
Kay C. 12/11
Perrie D. 12/13
Ellie Y. 12/14
Angella G. 12/16
Mick C. 12/21
Forrest D. 12/21
Mark S. 12/21

Caroline W. 12/21
Liz C. 12/23
Mark J. 12/24
Jennifer J. 12/24
Baby Jesus 12/25
Jean M. 12/28
Heather T. 12/28
Linda R. 12/31
Nancy D. 12/31
Susan M. 12/31

Wedding Anniversaries

Jean and John M 12/19
Derrick and Michelle G.
12/29

Scripture Readings for This Week

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Luke 1:46b-55

Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

Scripture Readings for Next Week

Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 148

Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40



This Week's Prayer List



<https://bit.ly/3pbsoiT>



Mt Zion Staff

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