

Zion Lutheran Church



Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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January 5, 2025

And JESUS increased in
WISDOM and STATURE
and in FAVOR
with GOD and MAN.

Luke 2:52

Zion Lutheran Church

Sundays with Zion

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Bible Hour 11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday after Christmas – January 5, 2025

Please observe a few minutes of quiet time as you prepare for worship. We invite you to **pray** and read the **Scriptures** for the day.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER TODAY *(Please see "Words to prepare our hearts and lives" on page 15)*

ALL WORSHIPERS are asked to please fill out the information sheet in the bulletin. Before we begin, you are also invited to pray and to read the Scripture for today's worship.

A PRAYER AS WE GATHER

O Lord, our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as You gather us together to worship You in spirit and in truth, prepare us to receive the preaching of Your Word and all Your life-giving gifts such that we would repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Rescuer, and grow in caring service for all. Hear us for His sake. Amen.

As We Gather

Are you ready for another new calendar year? Things can take on a new perspective when one puts away the Christmas decorations and cleans up after New Years. Do you have any special goals for yourself other than cutting out the sweets?

Stand

Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
 In our longing in our darkness
 Now the light of life has come
 Look to Christ who condescended
 Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living in His suff'ring
Never trace nor stain of sin
 See the true and better Adam
 Come to save the hell-bound man
 Christ the great and sure fulfillment
 Of the law in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory
 See the price of our redemption
 See the Father's plan unfold
 Bringing many sons to glory
 Grace unmeasured love untold

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord He is alive
 What a foretaste of deliv'rance
 How unwavering our hope
 Christ in power resurrected
 As we will be when He comes *Repeat*

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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19

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

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 3:4–15

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

Children's Message

Children are invited to the front for a brief teaching especially for them.

Stand

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,**

and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

Angels from the Realms of Glory

LSB 367



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text (sts. 1, ref. 2-4): James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79
Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

Sermon

“Goals for a New Year”

Pastor Russ Hess

Response to the Word

Stand

Confession and Absolution

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel (Silence for reflection on our need for forgiveness)

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority (*John 20:22-23; 1 Corinthians 4:1*), I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

Please leave a yellow information sheet for your household in the plate that is passed with any offerings you may have as an act of worship in response to Christ's abundant kindness toward us.

(You can also click on the Online Giving button at ZionLutheranNH.org to set up one-time or recurring payments when you are at home or even now in worship, which may take you only 2 minutes)

I Am Not My Own

The One who made the heavens made my heart and soul
Before I drew a breath I was loved and known
I am His creation the Maker's masterpiece
And all that He designs will be done in me

My body is a temple of the Living God
I'll worship in this house that His blood has bought
As I bear His image O may I not profane
The holiness I hold in this earthly frame

Chorus

I belong to the Lord O I am not my own
I belong to the Lord I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord I am not my own

And if He has redeemed me I am not my own
The measure of my worth is His love alone
He declares my standing and He declares my state
So I will know myself by the name He gave *Chorus*

I am not my own and now my heart is free
O Maker come and make what You will of me
There is nothing broken that You cannot repair
So Lord I leave my life in Your loving care *Chorus*

I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord I am not my own

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Stand

Prayers of the People

L Blessed are You, O God our Father, for in Your great wisdom, mercy, and love You have chosen us to be Your own children. We praise, glorify, and give thanks to You for the forgiveness of sins and adoption into Your family through Christ our Lord. Grant peace to Your whole Church. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Almighty Father, we offer our worship and praise here in Your house. When we depart from this place, we pray we may continue to be centered in Your mercy and grace through Your Word and Sacraments. Bless the homes of Your people. Grant patience, strength, and wisdom to parents and every member of every household. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Let Your Holy Spirit seek out and reveal Your salvation that all may hear and believe Your saving Gospel. Cast away all doubt. Strengthen the faith of Your people everywhere. Work peace among the conflicted nations of the world. Protect all who are persecuted and suffer hardship and death for the sake of Your Word. Guide those who make and administer laws to rule wisely, act justly, and protect the weak. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Bring Your healing and comfort to all who are sick, injured, or in need [*especially* . . .]. Assure them of Your mercy and give them comfort, restoration of health, and the peace to accept trials and tribulations. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

C **hear our prayer.**

L As the true body and blood of Your Son strengthens the faith of those who approach Your altar. Help us to prepare our hearts and minds as we receive the forgiveness of sins in the Sacrament. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Sanctus

208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

- 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.**

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \dagger body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new

testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

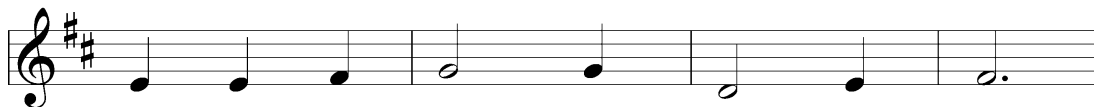
LSB 210



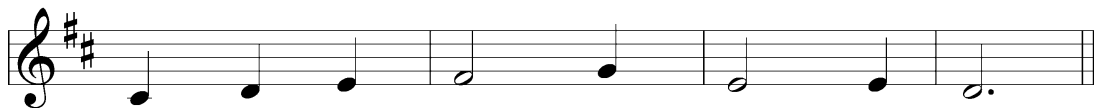
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

Words to prepare our hearts and lives

The Lord's Supper is a wonderful means of grace given to us by God. Christ gives His body and blood to forgive sins, renew faith, and cause us to grow in His love and service. We also remember and praise God for the sacrifice Christ made on our behalf on the cross. Out of pastoral concern and care and taking to heart the word in 1 Corinthians 11:36, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup," before receiving this means of God's grace properly we should positively answer the following:

- *Do I need forgiveness for sin?*
- *Do I believe in Christ as my Savior and have been Baptized?*
- *Do I believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine?*
- *Do I desire to turn from sin and live for God and others in love and service?*

If you are unsure or desire to learn more about what it means to take the Lord's Supper, please speak with an elder or pastor before or after the service. Those not partaking of the Lord's Supper, including children, are invited to come forward with arms folded across the chest to receive a blessing

*Grape juice is available in the center of the serving tray
God's Blessings!*

Prayer before Communing

O Lord, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called us to be Christians and granted us the remission of sins. Make me ready to receive the most holy Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins and grant us grateful hearts that we may give thanks to You, O Father, to Your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

After Receiving Communion

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding us the life-giving Body and Blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send us Your Holy Spirit that, having with our mouths feasted on this holy meal, we may by faith obtain and forever enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, eternal life in Christ, and unity with one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

When Your Grace Flows Down Again

We gather together in this holy place,
And we stand in amazement and sing out in praise
For the new life that comes in the water and Word
When Your grace flows down again

As the water pours over, it washes us clean,
And the Spirit takes hold of our faith and our deeds



help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus
man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those
by their works gain heav - en. The Law is but a
guilt was e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's



Christ a - lone, Who did for all the
pure de - sires The spir - it of the
mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred
poi - soned dart Or pu - ri - fy our



world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.
Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.
sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.
guile - ful heart— So deep is our cor - rup - tion.

5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and has God's anger stilled,
Our human nature sharing.
He has for us the Law obeyed
And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
Which over us impended.

6 Since Christ has full atonement made
And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad
And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,
Your death is now my life indeed,
For You have paid my ransom.

7 Let me not doubt, but truly see
Your Word cannot be broken;

Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!"
No falsehood have You spoken.
Baptized into Your precious name,
My faith cannot be put to shame,
And I shall never perish.

8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin
And makes us conscience-stricken;
But then the Gospel enters in
The sinful soul to quicken.
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;
The Law no peace can ever give,
No comfort and no blessing.

9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known,
With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify;
Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.

△ 10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace;
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessed name we hallow.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Etlisch Cristlich liden, 1524, Wittenberg
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank the Lord

164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:23-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

Children of the Light

Love has come, breaking like a beacon through the night

Burning like a fire.

Fear is gone, shattered by the One who gave His life

Let the Church arise

Chorus

We are children of the Light
We were once in darkness, but You have overcome it
We are children of the Light
Into every shadow You shine, we are children of the Light

By Your grace, all who would believe have come awake
We'll never be the same
Send us out, into every dark and broken place
We will be the flame *Chorus*

Bridge

Let Your glory shine
Jesus let Your Spirit light a spark in us
Show the world Your radiant love *Chorus*

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◆ The **VISION** of Zion Lutheran Church ◆

In response to God's amazing grace and love
Zion Lutheran Church is a place of refuge
where children, youth and adults are:

GROUNDED in God's unchanging Word,

REACHING OUT with the Good News of
Jesus Christ locally and globally,

ACCEPTING others in the same loving way
God has accepted us,

CHANGING into committed Christ followers, and

EMPOWERED to be Christ's hands and feet
joyfully serving others.

Our Core Values

We Believe:

- ◆ We are saved by Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ. (*Eph. 2: 8-9; Rom. 3:22-24; Titus 3:4-7*)
- ◆ Jesus is the Way, the Truth & the Life! No one comes to the Father except through Him! (*John 14:6; Acts 4:12*)
- ◆ Scripture is the Word of God. It is without error and our only source for life and faith! (*2 Tim. 3:16; John 20:31; 2 Peter 1:20-21*)
- ◆ Baptism & the Lord's Supper are the means by which God touches our lives with His grace. (*Rom 6:1-7; 1 Peter 3:21; Matt 26:26-28; 1 Cor 11:23-26*)
- ◆ God has chosen us to proclaim the Gospel to our community and world. (*Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 1 Peter 3:15*)
- ◆ In the power of God working through the Holy Spirit & Prayer. (*John 14:26; Acts 4:31; Mark 11:24; Phil 4:6-7*)
- ◆ We desire to remain a loving (*1Cor 13; 1John 4:7-11*) , caring family of God.
- ◆ We cherish our Lutheran heritage.