

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

We sit.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We receive communion this morning at the head of the center aisle. We commune by intinction, hold your bread to dip in wine. Return to your seat by the side aisles.

We remain seated.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN # 287

Let All Together Praise Our God

PEACE

We share the Peace of Christ with one another as we depart.

First Sunday of Christmas



January 1, 2017 + 8:30 am

**Zion Lutheran Church
Lexington, South Carolina**

Morning Communion Worship

You are invited to use this time before worship begins
for quiet prayer and meditation.

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, ☩ one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

We kneel. Silence is kept for confession and meditation.

Gracious God, **in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in ☩ Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

We stand.

GATHERING HYMN # 275

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant, Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We sit.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 63:7-9

After the reading: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:13-23

Before the reading: The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading: The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

SERMON

Seminarian Sarah Derrick

Silence for reflection. Pastoral prayer.

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY # 269

Once in Royal David’s City

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. **Amen.**