

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 # 439

Soon and Very Soon

PEACE

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

First Sunday of Advent



November 27, 2016 + 8:30am

**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 God, the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.. **Amen.**

Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

We kneel. Silence is kept for confession and meditation.

God of all time, **we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We have ignored our neighbors in need and have failed in the labor of justice and peace. We have expected too little of ourselves. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In + Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news and live in hope, for your God comes to you. **Amen.**

We stand.

GATHERING HYMN # 436

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We sit.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

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

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

ADVENT HYMN #257 (verses 1-2)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

We stand.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

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

Pastor Nathan Gragg

Silence for reflection. Pastoral prayer.

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY # 244

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

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

Let us pray. Savior of the nations come, **make your home here in us. Bless the gifts we offer and feed us with your love, that our faith may shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.**