

# life <sup>6 ft apart</sup> ~~together~~

THIS WEEK'S NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

WEEK OF DECEMBER 6 - 12, 2020



ZION  
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

## WORSHIP LEADERS

### PREACHING

Pastor Mike Rueckert

### PRESIDING

#### TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Pastor Brent Campbell

#### BLENDED SERVICE

Pastor Connie Tiede

Pastor Sue Wallager

### VERSE OF THE WEEK

The voice of one crying  
out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the  
Lord, make his paths  
straight. Mark 1:3

## today - 2nd Sunday of Advent

CHRIST CARE PRAYERS...We pray for the families of Sharon Fischer and Dorothy Korus (mother of Randy Korus) who mourn their deaths.

KID CITY SUNDAY SCHOOL  
TODAY | 10:00 AM | LIVESTREAM

HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUP STUDY  
TODAY | 7:00 PM | ZOOM

RADIO BROADCAST SUPPORT FUND...Thank you to those who donated to our Sunday morning radio broadcast fund: In memory of husband Bill given by Connie Engstrom and in memory of Brandon LeNoue given by Byron & Linda LeNoue.

### POINSETTIA GARDEN

Help decorate Zion's Sanctuary by donating to the poinsettia garden in memory or in honor of someone special. Memorials are \$15 each. To order, fill out the form in the December Herald and mail it back with your payment or pick up an envelope at the front desk. **Envelopes/forms must be returned by this Wednesday, Dec 9.** We will print the complete memorial list in the January Herald.

### CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-A-LONG - YOUTUBE PLAYLIST

Join us for Christmas caroling this year as we can still sing our favorite carols from the safety of our homes. During Advent we will be uploading sing-a-long videos to our YouTube playlist. We hope that these sing-a-long carols bring joy to your homes as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our savior. Go to <https://cutt.ly/zioncarols> and "sing-a-long" with us!

### CHRISTMAS KITS

We may be celebrating Christmas Eve virtually, but we still would like to share a little bit of Zion with you. Christmas Kits will be ready for families or individuals to pick up *starting Dec 13*. Inside each kit will be the Christmas Eve bulletin, communion elements, candles for the candle lighting service, a Christmas offering envelope and, for families with kids, special glow sticks and other activities. To register for a Christmas Kit please contact Kristine [kjohnson@zionanoka.org](mailto:kjohnson@zionanoka.org) or 763-421-4656.

### THE RIVER - ADVENT LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

WEDNESDAYS DEC 9, 16, & 23 | 7 PM | LIVESTREAM

*The River* livestream worship will lead us through the Advent season through the words and music of the Holden Evening Prayer led by Michael Morris and The River Worship Team. During these weeks, the future and the past mingle together as we celebrate the Christ who came and is yet to come. Memories, inherited through scripture and tradition, are sparked in order to feed tomorrow's hope. The Spirit nudges the discovery, "If God came once, maybe God really will come again."

# this week

## PASTORS

Pastor Brent Campbell  
*Lead Pastor*

Pastor Mike Rueckert  
*Pastor for Children, Youth  
& Family*

Pastor Connie Tiede  
*Pastor for Worship,  
Welcome, & Missions*

Pastor Sue Wallager  
*Pastor for Spiritual Care*

Pastor Jim Barsch  
*Pastor for Adult  
Education*

Ken Johnson  
*Visitation Minister*

Pastor Mawien Ariik  
*Missionary in  
South Sudan*

Pastor Stephen Deal  
*ELCA Missionary in  
Central America*

Steve & Kim Blewett  
*Missionaries in  
Papua, New Guinea*

## ELECTRONIC GIVING

Scan the QR code below  
for electronic giving via  
your cell phone!



MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

### Property Committee Meeting

5:00 PM | CORNERSTONE

### Evangelism Team Meeting

6:00 PM | ZOOM

### Esther Circle

7:00 PM | ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

### Worship Team Rehearsal

5:00 PM | SANCTUARY

### Confirmation

6:00 PM | ZOOM

### The River Worship Service

7:00 PM | LIVESTREAM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

### Traditional Worship

5:00 PM | LIVESTREAM ONLY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

### Christmas Kit Pickup

9:00 AM - NOON | LOWER COMMONS

### Traditional Worship Service

8:00 & 9:00 AM | LIVESTREAM ONLY

### Kid City Sunday School -

10:00 AM | LIVESTREAM ONLY

### Blended Worship Service

11:00 AM | LIVESTREAM ONLY

## ZION 151 YEARS - WALKING IN FAITH

Thank you to all who have returned their stewardship commitments for 2021. If you have not yet had the opportunity to return your commitment, please mail it in or drop it off at the church office. Your faithful stewardship during this challenging time is much appreciated and makes such a difference.

## IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS...

Looking for a unique gift to give during the holidays? Here are a few suggestions.

- Notecards with the painting *On the Road to Emmaus* by Paul Oman (\$5/set of 6)
- *Reverent Recipes* - Zion's 150th Anniversary cookbook (\$15)
- *Forward in Faith* Face mask (\$6)

Items are available for online purchase on our website [www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org) (click on the Zion Store tab) with next day pickup during normal business hours. Purchased items will be just inside the main doors in a bag with your name on it.

## MUG MADNESS!

Purchase a Zion 150th Anniversary mug for the special price of \$5.00 and receive it gift wrapped and ready to put under the Christmas tree! Order from our website [www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org) and pick it up next day. It will be on a table just inside the church doors. You can also purchase it at the front desk.

## NOISY OFFERING FOR CAMP WAPO

One of the commitments of Zion's Capital Appeal *Zion 150 years + Forward in Faith* is a pledge of donating \$150,000 over the 3 years of the Capital Appeal to expanding Camp Wapo's dining hall. To help with this commitment, last year we held a monthly Camp Wapo Noisy Offering between the months of October 2019 to March 2020 which helped to raise \$2,540.16 towards this commitment. While we can't take a Noisy Offering when we aren't meeting in the building, we will have the Noisy Offering bucket on a table inside the main doors for donations during December. During Zion's regular office hours until December 30, you can empty your jars of spare change (bills are accepted too) into the Noisy Offering bucket.

# coming up

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT FROM ST. OLAF COLLEGE

TODAY DEC 6 | 3:30 PM | LIVESTREAM

*All Earth is Hopeful*, a digital concert to celebrate the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany season. It will showcase music captured from recent and past Christmas Festivals. Due to COVID 19 this year's ensembles will not appear on the program. We hope this music can provide people with healing, hope and joy. Join us at <https://www.stolaf.edu> to watch the program live, comment along with other viewers, and experience a communal celebration of the holiday season.

## FREE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

FRIDAY, DEC 11 | 8 PM |

ONLINE @ NLCA.com

This online presentation by the National Lutheran Choir Christmas Festival comes to audiences FREE in a virtual, multi-media format. *The Incarnation: For the Healing of the World* brings music from around the globe announcing the birth of Christ with messages of peace and joy that nothing, not even a pandemic, can take away. Visit NLCA.com for a virtual subscription to exclusive content (\$10/month)

## FAMILY GAME NIGHT

FRIDAY, DEC 18 | 6:30 PM | ZOOM

Zion CYF Staff is hosting a virtual FAMILY GAME NIGHT with family ministry expert Tony Ducklow, who is also a Game Software Engineer! Families and individuals will be pitted against each other in a variety of games, like Family Feud, Jeopardy, Trivia, Wheel of Fortune, 10K Pyramid, and more! We need an accurate count of participants, so **please RSVP using your Realm Account by Dec 14th**. You don't want to miss out on this family night of fun! P.S. Rumor has it, 1st-2nd-3rd place families will receive a prize!

## BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

MONDAY, DEC 21 | 7 PM | LIVESTREAM

The holidays are often the loneliest time of the year for those who have experienced recent loss. Join us for a Blue Christmas Worship Service where we will be able to acknowledge our losses and our pain, and to take comfort in God's love and care for us, especially in sending Jesus, who experiences loss and grief as we do. You will have an opportunity to light a candle in your homes as a way of remembering someone who has left your life or someone or something you have left behind. As we bring our grief and our pain to God, may we experience God's love, God's hope, and God's peace. This service is a shared worship service with the Anoka Ministerium.

## CARING TREES

Caring Trees will be virtual this year! Although the way we are giving will be different, the need is still very great. The Caring Trees support the same four local agencies: Alexandra House, Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Center, Stepping Stone Emergency Housing and Bridgeview Drop-in Center at Lee Carlson Center. If you would like to give to a certain agency, you can go to [zionanoka.org/zion-caring-trees/](http://zionanoka.org/zion-caring-trees/) and click on the link to give to that agency. If you are unable to do that, we are still collecting gift cards (Target, Walmart, etc.) that we will distribute to all four of the agencies we are helping. Gift cards can be dropped off at Zion during our business hours. In order to get the gift cards to the agencies in a timely manner and used by families for Christmas, we ask that you bring the gift cards in by December 13.

## LIVE BROADCAST

SATURDAY 5 PM  
SUNDAY 8, 9 & 11 AM

[www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org)  
(click "Worship Online")  
and on  
[www.facebook.com/  
ZionLutheranChurch  
AnokaMn](http://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchAnokaMn)  
(Available anytime)

## LIVE CABLE TV BROADCAST

on  
Metro Cable Network  
Channel 6

## Traditional Service

SATURDAY | 5 PM\*

\*Rebroadcast:

Mon @ 7:30 AM,

Tue-Thu @ 7 AM

Fri @ 2 PM

## Blended Service

SUNDAY | 5 PM

## RADIO BROADCAST

on  
106.1 BOB FM  
SUNDAYS | 9 AM

## encouraging words

Start each day with encouraging words from Zion! Dial 763-506-8191 to hear a daily message of encouragement and hope.

# growing in faith together

## UPCOMING LESSONS

DECEMBER 12/13  
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

DECEMBER 19/20  
2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Luke 1:26-38

DECEMBER 26/27  
Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3  
Luke 2:22-40

## prayer request

If you have a celebration or concern you would like the prayer team to include in their prayers, please email it to [swal-lager@zionanoka.org](mailto:swal-lager@zionanoka.org).

## prayer corner

Creator of the world,  
you are the potter, we  
are the clay, and you  
form us in your image.  
Shape our spirits by  
Christ's transform-  
ing power, that as one  
people we may live  
out your compassion  
and justice, whole and  
sound in the realm of  
your peace.  
Amen.

## Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

## Sermon Scripture: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

## ZION KIDS VIDEO PREMIERES DECEMBER 24

Zion Kids are creating a Christmas "program" video entitled *Miracle in the Manger*, which will post to Zion's Facebook Page on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. We invite everyone to enjoy this new take on an old tradition! The video can be viewed on your own time-table, and shared with friends and family afar! Thanks to all of the kids and families participating in its production!

## WELCOME

God is here for you,  
in the word and  
sacraments, in the love  
of this community.

## CONTACT

1601 4th Avenue  
Anoka MN 55303  
763.421.4656  
[www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org)

## OFFICE HOURS

MON - THU: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
FRI: 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON  
*While in the building please wear a mask  
and maintain 6' social distancing.*



ZION  
LUTHERAN + ANOKA