

life together

But still 6 ft apart!

THIS WEEK'S NEWS OF ZION LUTHERAN | ANOKA

WEEK OF DECEMBER 12 - 18, 2021

today - 3rd Sunday of Advent



ZION
LUTHERAN † ANOKA

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHING:

Pastor Brent Campbell

PRESIDING:

5 PM Greg Bergeron
8 AM Pr Mike Rueckert
9 AM Pr Sue Wallager
11 AM Pr Connie Tiede

READERS:

5 PM Greg Bergeron
8 AM Marcia Wilson
9 AM Ken Johnson
11 AM Kendra Gerlach

CHRIST CARE PRAYERS... We rejoice with Penelope Kay Schmidt and Henry James Eppel as they the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We rejoice with Arianna Larson as she receives her First Communion. We celebrate with Amanda Johnson and Taylor Olinger who were married on December 11. We pray for the families of Joshua Branum, Mary Chamberlain, Sandy Driste and William Richardson who mourn their deaths.

RADIO BROADCAST SUPPORT FUND... Thank you to these recent supporters:

- Ken & Sandy Benson
- Teresa Mans

ADULT FORUMS - A History of Carols - Part 1

TODAY | 10:00 AM | CLC (*NOTE LOCATION CHANGE*)

Join us as we listen to the history of some of our favorite Christmas carols and then sing as we prepare for Christmas. *There will be no Sunday forums on Dec 26 and Jan 2.*

KID CITY & TOT TOWN SUNDAY SCHOOL

TODAY | 10:00 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

The First Night, an interactive, shadow play presented by the children that retells the Christmas story. It will be recorded to share with the congregation next week on Dec 19 at the 11 AM worship service.

CAMP WAPO NOISY OFFERING BUCKETS ARE OUT AGAIN THIS WEEKEND

Place your coins (or bills) into the buckets. In November we gathered \$397.35 bringing our total this fall to \$702.86. Thank you for your continued support of Camp Wapo's dining hall expansion campaign!

MORTGAGE REDUCTION OPPORTUNITY

The Zion Foundation has approved a matching gift to encourage the reduction, and eventual elimination of Zion's mortgage. New gifts of any amount, over and above current pledges in place for our capital appeal, will be matched dollar for dollar up to a total of \$300,000 over the next 3 years. Please consider this special opportunity to pay it forward for future generations of Zion Lutheran Church. Special "Mortgage Reduction" envelopes are available at the front desk and the tables at the Sanctuary entrances. Questions? Call the Church office at 763-421-4656 or talk to Pastor Brent.

Welcome Guests!

We are glad you are here. If you would like to learn more about Zion please fill out the information below and give it to an usher or pastor as you leave. Information bags are available at the Welcome Center on the lower level.

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

- I'm looking for a church home I wish to join Zion Please have a pastor call me Invite me to the next New Member Orientation

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*

Michael Busbey
*ELCA Missionary in
Central America*

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

encouraging words

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

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Rejoice in the Lord
always; again I will say,
Rejoice. Let your gentleness
be known to everyone. The Lord is
near.

Philippians 4:4-5

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

Communion Service - Walker

10:00 AM | OFFSITE

Ruth Circle

10:30 AM | FIRESIDE ROOM

Hannah Circle

1:00 PM | YOUTH ROOM

TOPS

5:30 PM | FIRESIDE ROOM

Boy Scouts

6:30 PM | YOUTH ROOM, CLC & ART ROOM

Young Adult Bible Study - Group 1

6:30 PM | OFFSITE

Divorce Support Group

7:00 PM | LEGACY ROOM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Lydia Circle

9:30 AM | OFFSITE

Deborah-Priscilla Circle

1:00 PM | OFFSITE

Naomi Circle

1:00 PM | OFFSITE

Evangelism Committee Meeting

6:00 PM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Rachel Circle

6:30 PM | LEGACY ROOM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

Worship Team Rehearsal

5:00 PM | SANCTUARY

Confirmation

6:00 PM | VARIOUS ROOMS

Ringmasters

6:00 PM | CLASSROOM B (204-205)

Whirl Wednesday - Grades K-5

6:00 PM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Common Ground

6:30 PM | YOUTH ROOM

Adult Choir

7:00 PM | SANCTUARY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

Traditional Worship Service

5:00 PM | SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

Traditional Worship Service

8:00 AM | SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM

Worship Service with Cantata

9:00 AM | SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM

Adult Forum

10:00 AM | CLC

Kid City & Tot Town - Craft Day

10:00 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Worship Service with Cantata

11:00 AM | SANCTUARY & LIVESTREAM

Blue Christmas Service

6:30 PM | SANCTUARY

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. Pick up an envelope at the front desk to submit your request and **return it no later than Wednesday, December 15.**

CARING TREES - LAST DAY - TODAY!

The need is still so great in our community and we hope you can help! The Caring Trees will support four local agencies: Alexandra House, Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Center, Bridgeview Drop-in Center at Lee Carlson Center and Stepping Stone Emergency Housing. Like last year, due to the pandemic, instead of specific items we will be collecting gift cards from Target and Walmart. We will distribute those to all four of the agencies we are helping. Gift cards can be dropped off at Zion's front desk during business hours. Please **bring gift cards in today, December 12** so the agencies can get them to families to use for Christmas. Thank you for your support.

coming up

KID CITY & TOT TOWN

SUN, DEC 19 | 10 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL
A Christmas Craft Hour for parents and kids! Families can choose from a variety of crafts and ornaments to make as gifts to give away or treasures to keep!
Kid City and Tot Town will take a break December 26 & January 2, and will resume on January 9. For more info, contact Ann at acampbell@zionanoka.org or Lee at lneitge@zionanoka.org.

A CHRISTMAS CANTATA

SUN, DEC 19 | 9 & 11 AM | SANCTUARY
Dr. Jonathan Campbell, Zion's Director of Music & Worship, will be conducting the Zion Adult Choir and String Quartet in *A Christmas Cantata* by David Von Kampen during the 9 & 11 AM worship services. Kampen's cantata is a lovely setting of texts written by the famous Lutheran pastor and hymn writer Paul Gearhardt (1607-1676). Many of his hymns were set to music by J.S. Bach, and many remain in print in our current hymnal. However, all of the music in Kampen's cantata is original. Composed in five movements, the cantata tells the story of the wonder and power of the incarnation.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

SUN, DEC 19 | 6:30 PM | SANCTUARY
The winter solstice is the longest night and the beginning of winter in the northern hemisphere. For many, the lack of daylight intensifies other suffering. The weight of depression grows heavier when light is scarce. What an opportunity, then, to share that the message of Christmas is specifically sent for those in pain and suffering. It is not that "all is merry and bright." Rather, it is the abiding truth that God seeks to be with us, even when we are "blue." Lord of Life Church will join us for this service.

SNOW TUBING FAMILY EVENT

WED, DEC 22 | 5:30-8 PM | ELM CREEK WINTER RECREATION AREA
Join us for a snow tubing family event. Families can purchase tickets directly from Elm Creek Park Reserve's website 14 days in advance at \$15 per person for 2 hours of snow tubing. Riders must be at least 36" tall or 4 years of age. More information about snow tubing can be found at www.threeriversparks.org/activity/.

NEW SMALL GROUP STUDY -

"GRACISM" BY DAVID A. ANDERSON
In this 4-week study, beginning the week of January 3, Pr. David Anderson presents a biblical model for showing special grace to others on the basis of ethnicity, class or other social distinction and offers seven sayings of the gracist with practical examples for building bridges and including others. Sign up at the Welcome Desk. Books are available for \$12 at the front desk.

THANK YOU -

"FARE FOR ALL" VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all those who helped with *Fare for All* last Thursday. Our Next *Fare for All* is Thursday, January 27.

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

Anoka Middle School is in need of the following winter items for students: gloves, mittens and socks (for both boys and girls). If you can help with any of these items please drop them off in the bin located in the lower commons. Thank you for your support!

TEXT TO GIVE

With Vanco's GivePlus, you can quickly and easily give to Zion using your smartphone. For more information call the church office between 9 AM & 5 PM.

LIVE BROADCAST

SATURDAY 5 PM
SUNDAY 8, 9 & 11 AM
www.zionanoka.org
(click "Worship Online")
and on
[www.facebook.com/
ZionLutheranChurch
AnokaMn](https://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchAnokaMn)
(Available anytime)

LIVE CABLE TV BROADCAST

on
Metro Cable Network
Channel 6

Traditional Service

SATURDAY | 5 PM
SUNDAY | 10 AM
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

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Go to:
[https://cutt.ly/
ziongivetoday](https://cutt.ly/ziongivetoday)
or
Scan this
QR code



growing in faith together

UPCOMING LESSONS

DECEMBER 18/19

Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:39-45

DECEMBER 26

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Luke 2:41-52
*There will be no 5 PM
service on the 25th*

JANUARY 1/2

Jeremiah 31:7-14
John 1-9, 46-55

prayer request

If you have a celebration or concern you would like the prayer team to include in their prayers, email it to swallager@zionanoka.org.

prayer corner

O God of the exiles and the lost, you promise restoration and wholeness through the power of Jesus Christ. Give us faith to live joyfully, sustained by your promises as we eagerly await the day when they will be fulfilled for all the world to see, through the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Sermon Scripture: Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" John said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. With a winnowing fork in hand, he will clear the threshing floor and gather the wheat into his granary, burning the chaff with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

2022 STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT

If you haven't already returned your 2022 stewardship commitment please do so as soon as possible. You may mail it in, drop it off at the church office or place it in one of the offering boxes near the exits on Sunday morning. Thank you for your faithful stewardship! Additional stewardship packets are available at the front desk.

YEAR-END GIVING

The church will be closed Monday, December 27 (Christmas holiday) and Friday, December 31 (New Year's holiday). Please drop off your year-end gifts by 5 PM on December 30 or mail them (postmarked) by December 31 or give online at www.zionanoka.org by December 31. Thank You!

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

OFFICE HOURS

MON - THU: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
FRI: 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON
While in the building please wear a mask & maintain 6' social distancing.

