



A WELCOMING FAITH COMMUNITY.  
GROWING. CARING. SERVING.



DECEMBER 9/10, 2023  
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**Please silence your cell phones. Thank you!**

## Welcome to Worship

If you are a visitor please stop at the Welcome Desk in the lower level for a visitor bag. For more information contact us at [www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org).

### PREACHING:

Pastor Brent Campbell

### ASSISTING:

5 PM Deb Oas Koepsell

8 AM Pr Sue Wallager

9 AM Pr Sue Wallager

### READER:

5 PM Judy Bendiske

8 AM Deb Oas Koepsell

9 AM Bill Travis

ORGANISTS: 5 PM KT Thompson      8 & 9 AM Mary Jo Gothmann

PRELUDE (9 AM): "Come Christian Friends Rejoice".....organ/piano duet  
Mary Jo Gothmann, organ; Kristine Johnson, piano

## GATHERING

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENT

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

We gather in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In this time of Advent, let us open our hearts to the coming of Christ, confessing our sins before God and one another.

*Silence for reflection*

Gracious God,

**we confess that we are broken and sinful, and we have turned away from you. We have failed to fully serve you, and to be a light to our neighbors. We do not trust completely in your promises or your grace. Forgive us, turn our wills again to you, and prepare our hearts for Christ's reign, that your light may dwell within us, and shine forth through us, for your glory. Amen.**

Jesus, the Word made flesh, Immanuel, God with us, was sent that all who believe in him may not perish, but have eternal life. In his name † your sins are forgiven. God has cleansed your hearts, and wiped away your sin. Live now in the light of Christ.

**Amen.**

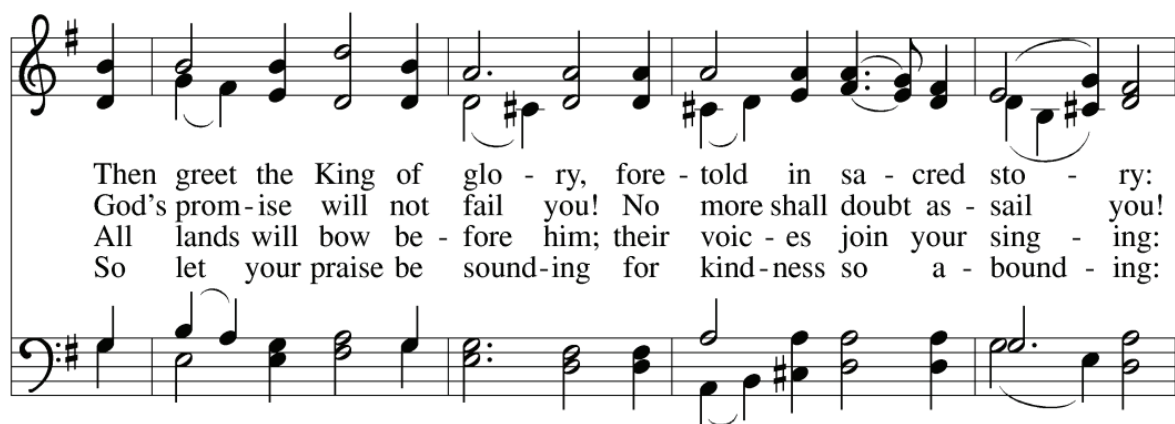
**GATHERING SONG:** *Prepare the Royal Highway* ..... 264



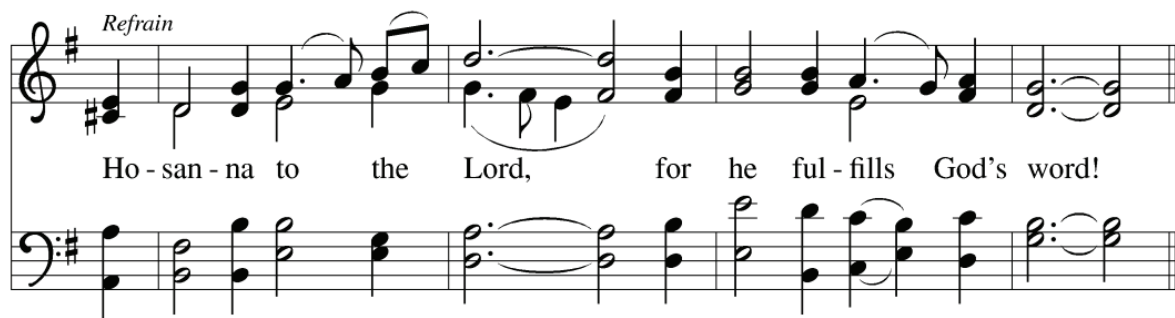
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



*Refrain*  
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

## LITANY FOR LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Today is the second Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Peace.

**Our peace is found in God and in his son, Jesus Christ and all the Prophets, and reminds us that to receive peace we must be prepared for it.**

We light this candle today to remind us that Christ is the Prince of Peace, the one promised from the beginning of the world.

**Come, Lord Jesus! You are the Prince of Peace**

HYMN: *Light One Candle, vs. 2*



2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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## GREETING:

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our Prince of Peace, our Mighty God, our Wonderful Counselor, who is and was and is to come.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

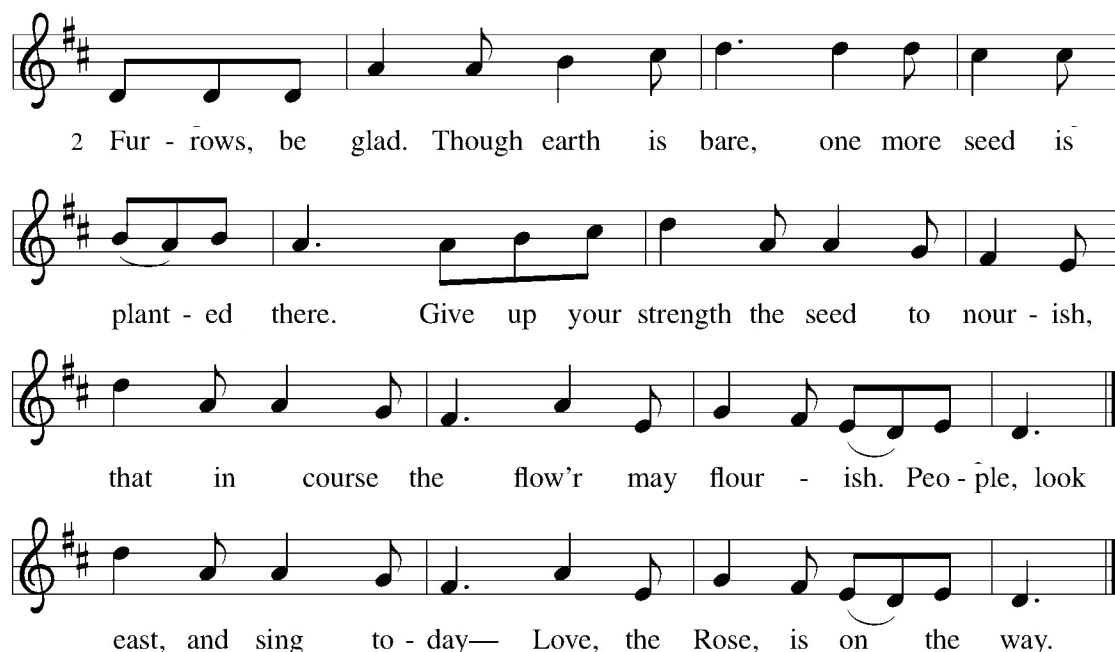
**Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## WORD

WORD FOR KIDS (9 AM)

LESSONS: Isaiah 40:1-8



2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965  
Music: BESANCON, French carol  
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.  
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or valid license from copyright administrator.

## GOSPEL:

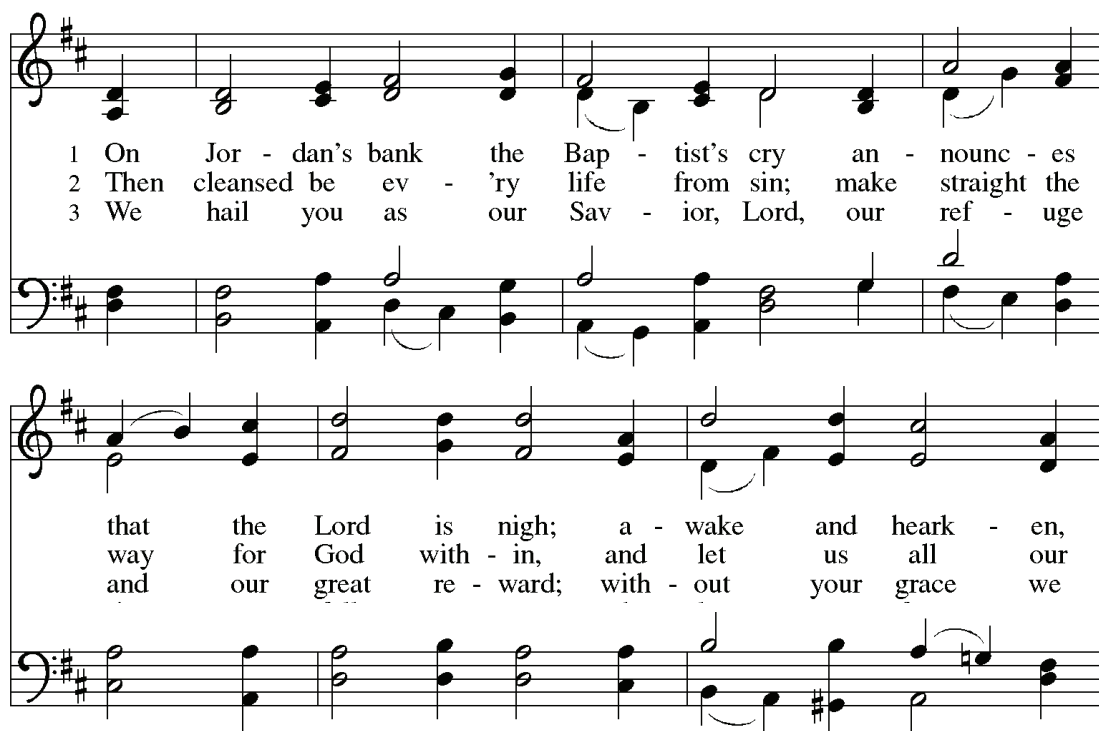
The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

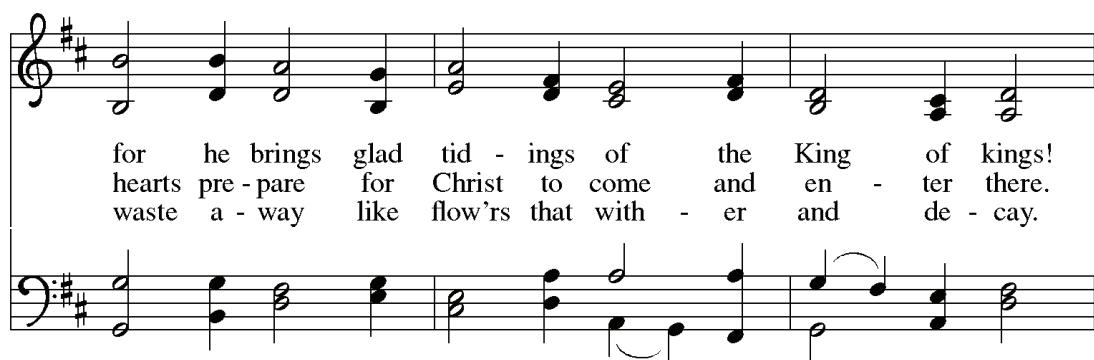
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON: *"Clearing the Clutter"* by Pastor Brent Campbell



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
way for God with - in, and let us all our  
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite  
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt.  
adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

## THE APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

*After each petition*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come...

**Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

## SHARING THE PEACE:

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(Share the peace with a wave and word of peace.)*

## MEAL

### OFFERING

### SPECIAL MUSIC

8 AM: "Come Christian Friends Rejoice".....organ/piano duet  
Mary Jo Gothmann, organ; Kristine Johnson, piano

9 AM: "Prepare the Royal Highway"..... by J. Campbell  
Zion Adult Choir; Jonathan Campbell, dir.; Mary Jo Gothmann, organ;  
Stephanie Scheibe, timpani

OFFERTORY: *What Child is This* (vs 3) ..... 296

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.**

**The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.**

**Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;**

**joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

### MANY WAYS TO GIVE

TEXT: 763-710-2209

ONLINE [www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org)  
click on "GIVE TODAY"

ELECTRONIC GIVING  
<https://cutt.ly/ziongivetoday>

or



God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**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.**

Text: Cameroon traditional  
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949  
Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
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# There's a Voice in the Wilderness

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1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!  
peo - ple the com - ing of their king.  
na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: James Lewis Milligan, 1876-1961, alt.  
Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Bancroft, 1904-1988  
Music © Estate of Eldred Bancroft, B. Burrows, Executor.

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## POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER:

Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BENEDICTION:

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the joy of the Spirit † remain upon you now and forever. **Amen.**



## WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP

### Hearing Assistance Units Available

Hearing assistance units  
are available at the  
sound booth at the  
back of the Sanctuary.

### Mobility Concerns

We have areas in the  
sanctuary where a wheel-  
chair or walker will fit.  
Ushers can assist you.

### Children Welcome

Activity bags are avail-  
able outside the sanctu-  
ary. We have two "pray  
grounds" in the sanctuary  
with plenty of places just  
outside the sanctuary as  
well where children can  
sit and play.

## LIVE STREAM

SUNDAY 9 & 11 AM

[www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org)

(click "Worship Online")

- or -

[www.facebook.com/  
ZionLutheranChurch  
AnokaMn](https://www.facebook.com/ZionLutheranChurchAnokaMn)

AVAILABLE ANYTIME

## CABLE TV

Metro Cable Network  
Channel 6

SUNDAY | 10 AM & 5 PM

## RADIO BROADCAST

106.1 BOB FM

SUNDAYS | 9:10 AM

## OFFICE HOURS

M - TH: 9 AM - 5 PM

FRI: 9 AM - 12 NOON



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[www.zionanoka.org](http://www.zionanoka.org)

## SENDING HYMN: *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*, vs 1-3 ..... 256

1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.

Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.

To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,

Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

## DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE: