

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10 (ESV)

11 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. **2** And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. **3** And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, **4** but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

5 Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. **6** The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

7 The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. **8** The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. **9** They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. **10** In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Romans 15:4-13 (ESV)

4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. **5** May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, **6** that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. **8** For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the

patriarchs, **9** and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." **10** And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

11 And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

12 And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." **13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)

3 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,

2 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." **3** For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" **4** Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. **5** Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, **6** and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. **7** But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? **8** Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. **9** And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. **10** Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **11** 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. **12** His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'"

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Advent

December 7, 2025
Second Sunday in Advent

Zion Lutheran Church, 17927 Dice Road, Hemlock, MI 48626
www.zionhemlock.org ~ Church Office 642-5909

✠ In the Name of Jesus ✠

As We Gather ~ *By the Preaching of Repentance, We Are Prepared for the Coming of the Lord.* "John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent'" (Matt. 3:1-2). His preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins prepared people for the coming of Christ into the world. St. John's work was historically complete with the incarnate advent of Jesus, but his vital ministry continues in preaching Law and Gospel. The Son of God has come in the flesh, "a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots" (Is. 11:1), and continues to bear the fruits of righteousness. His good tree of the cross is "a signal for the peoples" (Is. 11:10), by which He calls the nations to repentance. "With the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips" (Is. 11:4), He slays the wicked and brings the dead to life, making sons of Abraham out of lifeless stones. So also the "root of Jesse" comes to us, "even he who arises to rule the Gentiles" (Rom. 15:12), that "we might have hope" and be filled "with all joy and peace in believing" (Rom. 15:4, 13).

ORDER OF SERVICE Divine Service Setting Four	203
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH	
OPENING HYMN "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"	344
SERMON HYMN "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"	347
SERMON "Prophecy"	Isaiah 11:1-10
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "Prepare the Royal Highway"	343
"Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior"	627
CLOSING HYMN "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"	922

Pastor	Larry Warsinski
Organist	Carolyn Laurenz
Elders	Dick Bluemer and Paul Bohn
A/V	Pam Gilbert
Ushers	Dave Hutfilz and Dave Little
Altar Guild	Irene Kruth

Our Measure of Love and Gifts

Attendance last week 18 Midweek Advent 14

Please pray for your fellow Christians on their birthday: December 7- Amanda Clapp, Daniel Coulter; December 10-Tracey Little; December 11- Brad Pinet; December 12- David Bohn, Greg Mallek, Dale Rohde, Lloyd Zastrow, Sr. (his 81st).

Today's Memory Verse ~ "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." Luke 9:23

Midweek Advent Services will be held on Wednesdays, December 10 and 17 at 7:00 pm. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship at 7:00 pm with Communion. Christmas Day Worship at 9:30 am. New Year's Eve Worship at 6:00 pm with Communion.

Voters' Meeting to place a pastoral call will be held on Sunday, December 14th following the service. All confirmed members 18 and older are encouraged to attend.

Bake Sale will be held on December 14th following the worship service in the fellowship hall. Baked goods are needed. Please have them at the church on Saturday, December 13th between 1 and 3 pm or on Sunday before 9 am. See Lois Tessin with questions.

Christmas Poinsettias ~ Envelopes for donations were included in your packet of offering envelopes or can be given to or Irene Kruth.

Recycle your Christmas lights ~ Have old Christmas lights? Don't throw them away! Indoor/outdoor string lights can be dropped off at the church office or the Richland Township office in Hemlock through January 15, 2026. Contact Mid Michigan Waste Authority with any questions at 989-781-9555.

God's Helping Hands will not be open on December 27, the fourth Saturday. We thank all our volunteers who need a break! Please pass the word to those who may need to know.

