

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church

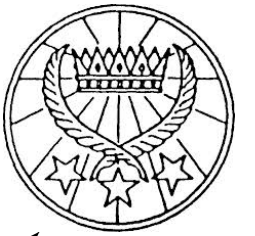
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"Blow the Trumpet in Zion" (Joel 2.15)



Zion Trumpet

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Detroit

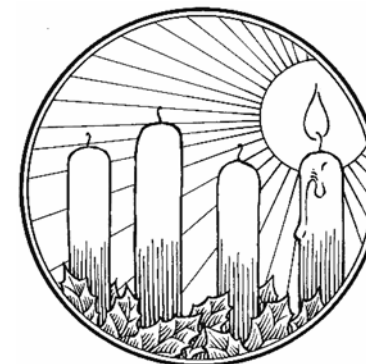
November/December 2016

Advent

by Father Braden

The Season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 27th this year. The First Sunday of Advent is the first day of the new Liturgical Year. It is determined by the Commemoration of St. Andrew, Apostle, which is observed on November 30 each year. The Sunday closest to November 30 becomes the first Sunday of the Church Year. What a joy it is to begin again our annual celebration and remembrance of the miraculous conception of our Lord Jesus Christ, His birth by the Virgin, His sinless, perfect life, His Passion, His death, and His glorious resurrection and ascension! As we look forward to the beginning of the new Year of the Church, we recall the Promise of our Lord: "Behold, I make all things new!" (Revelation 21:5)

This making new, this re-generation, this new birth begins for us in Holy Baptism. We are incorporated into Christ's new creation as we are set apart as God's children, citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. And yet it is ours to live out our earthly lives in faith, looking through the decay and death of this fallen world, and towards the fulfillment of our Lord's Promise of a new heaven and a new earth.



The Church waits. She waits in faith. Advent is an expression of that waiting. We prepare during four violet weeks for the brilliant gold of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord. As is often said, "The Church fasts before She feasts." That is what waiting in faith means.

*"Behold, I
make all
things new!"*

Revelation 21: 5

In This Issue

Advent	PAGES 1-2
Calendar	PAGE 3
Martin Luther on the Birth of Christ	PAGES 3-4
From the First Sunday of Advent 1948	PAGE 4
St. Michael	PAGE 5
Memories from St. Michael's Conference	PAGES 5-7
November / December Calendars	
January Calendar	

Continued from page 1

As part of our faithful waiting, we join together to receive God's Gifts more frequently. As part of our faithful waiting, we put aside the pressures and demands of the madhouse of this fallen world, and we make time to receive Christ together every Wednesday of Advent. The increase in worship and prayer, fasting, and an increase in almsgiving are faith's response to God's mercy in the time of waiting before He comes. Don't deny yourself the opportunities that Advent presents to grow in faith toward God and love toward neighbor, as the Lord Who Comes preserves you with His Gifts of Word and Sacrament.

It has been my practice in my eight years at Zion to design a thematic sermon series for Advent and Lenten mid-week Masses. I have alternated between preaching the Introit Psalm, the Old Testament Reading, the Epistle, and the Gospel Reading appointed for the Wednesday Masses. This year I return to the preaching of the Introit Psalms, which I last preached in 2012. By nuance of the Liturgical Calendar, however, this Advent will be a bit different. The Commemorations of two Apostles fall on Wednesdays in Advent this year - St. Andrew on Wednesday, November 30; and St. Thomas on Wednesday, December 21st.

The Church "ranks" its Feasts. The Feast of an Apostle "outweighs" a Wednesday in Advent. So the first and fourth Wednesdays in Advent our Propers will be those of the Apostles rather than those for Advent Wednesdays. The second and third Wednesdays in Advent will have the themes "Daughter of Zion, behold your King" and "Rejoice in the Lord always", respectively. The Introit for the Third Wednesday in Advent is based not on a

Psalm, but rather on St. Paul's Epistle to the Philippians.

Please make the observance of Advent a priority in your life and the life of your family. To facilitate your receipt of God's Gifts, Zion offers two Masses every Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., in the Church. The Masses are spoken, with the Chief Hymn led *a capella*.



The Great "O Antiphons" are sung as the Antiphon to the *Magnificat* at Vespers from December 17 through December 23. You know several of them from the hymn "O

Come, O Come, Immanuel" a hymn based on the Antiphons. The Antiphons proclaim seven different prophetic Names for the promised Messiah, the Lord Who Comes:

- O Wisdom** (*Sapientia*, Isaiah 11:2-3, Proverbs 8:12, 9:1; 1 Corinthians 1:24),
- O Lord** (*Adonai*, Isaiah 2:5; 9:6-7),
- O Root** (*Radix*) **of Jesse** (Isaiah 11:1,10),
- O Key** (*Clavis*) **of David** (Isaiah 9:6; 22:22),
- O Rising Sun** (*Oriens*, Isaiah 9:1; 59:19),
- O King of the Nations** (*Rex Gentium*, Isaiah 2:4; 9:6-7),
- O Emmanuel** (Isaiah 7:14 - in Hebrew it is spelled with an "I", in Latin with an "E").

According to church tradition, Benedictine monks of the 7th century arranged the antiphons so that the first letter of each in reverse order spells *EROCRAS*, which in Latin means "tomorrow I will come."



Pictured are presenters The Rev. Dr. Joel Elowsky of Concordia Seminary (St. Louis, MO) and The Rev. Dr. Burnell Eckardt, Pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Kewanee, IL).



Pictured are presenters The Rev. Dr. Joel Elowsky of Concordia Seminary (St. Louis, MO) and The Rev. Fr. Mark Braden, Zion's Pastor.



Pictured is keynote presenter The Rev. Dr. Joel Elowsky of Concordia Seminary (St. Louis, MO).



Pictured is presenter The Rev. Fr. Charles McClean, Pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church (Baltimore, MD).

Birthday Anniversaries

November
 10 Josiah Edwards
 18 Linda Buskirk
 21 Paula MacMunn
 23 Josef Ruffin

December
 2 Jessica Chavez
 4 Anna Edwards
 14 Theodore Krey
 17 Kathleen Atkins
 19 Fayth Atkins
 20 Revelle Cross
 20 Roselle Cross III
 25 Thomas Habitz, Jr.
 27 Janet Schulz

Baptism Anniversaries

November
 2 John Chavez
 8 Nicholas Alford
 16 Darwin Terry
 17 Silas Gray
 24 Anna Edwards
 24 Elijah Edwards
 24 Josiah Edwards
 25 Joshua Chavez

December
 15 Paula MacMunn
 29 Theodore Krey

Marriage Anniversaries

November
 28
 William & Nancy Gramzow
 December



Pictured from left to right are Officiant The Rt. Rev. Dr. David Stechholz, Bishop Emeritus of The English District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and serving as Chaplain to the Bishop Mr. Thomas Habitz, Jr., Zion's Chairman of the Voters.



Pictured from left to right are Thurifer Mr. Kevin Wiedelman, Zion's Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Master of Ceremonies The Rev. Fr. Brian Westgate, Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church (Oakmont, PA).



Pictured from left to right are Master of Ceremonies The Rev. Fr. Brian Westgate, Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church (Oakmont, PA) and Celebrant The Rev. Fr. Mark Braden, Zion's Pastor.

The **Zion Trumpet** is the informational and educational newsletter of Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church. It communicates the news of Zion and instructs members in various aspects of the Christian Faith.

The **Trumpet** is published six times each year. It is free for members of Zion. Non-members are invited to contribute toward the production and mailing of the **Trumpet**.

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church is a parish of the one, holy catholic and apostolic Church and is affiliated with the English district of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Zion Evangelical-Lutheran Church

www.ZionDetroit.org
 4305 Military Avenue
 Detroit, MI 48210-2451

PARISH OFFICE
 Telephone
 313.894.7450
 Facsimile
 313.894.7871
 Church@ZionDetroit.org

THE REV. FR. MARK P. BRADEN,
Pastor
 FrBraden@ZionDetroit.org
 Mobile
 313.404.1883
 Home
 313.429.9252



Calendar

The **Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ** falls on a Sunday this year. The calendar of our 2016/2017 Christmastide Masses is as follows:

- Sunday 12/25 - Midnight Mass & 10:am Mass
- 12/26 - St. Stephen, Protomartyr - 10 a.m. Mass in the Chapel
- 12/27 - St. John, Apostle & Evangelist - 10 a.m. spoken Mass in the Church
- 12/28 - Holy Innocents, Martyrs - 10:00 a.m. sung Mass in the Church
- 12/29 - 5th day - St. David, Patriarch, King & Psalmist - 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel
- 12/30 6th day - 10 a.m. Mass in the Chapel
- 12/31 - 7th day - St. Sylvester, Bishop & Confessor - 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel
- Sunday 1/1 - The Feast of the Circumcision - 10:00 a.m. sung Mass in the Church
- 1/2 - Holy Name of Jesus - 10:00 a.m. sung Mass in the Church
- 1/3 - 10th day - 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel
- 1/4 - St. Titus, Bishop & Confessor - 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel
- 1/5 - 12th Day - Vigil of the Epiphany - 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel
- 1/6 - The Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord -7:00 p.m. sung Mass in the Church
 (1/13, Friday- The Feast of the Baptism of our Lord)

Martin Luther on the Birth of Christ:

“Some argue as to how this birth took place, as if Jesus was born while Mary was praying and rejoicing, without any pain, and before she was conscious of it. While I do not altogether discard that pious supposition, it was evidently invented for the sake of simple minded people. But we must abide by the Gospel, that He was born of the Virgin Mary. There is no deception here, for the Word clearly states that I was an actual birth.

It is well known what is meant by giving birth. Mary’s experience was not different from that of other women, so that the birth of Christ was a real natural birth, Mary being His natural



mother and He being her natural Son. Therefore her body performed its functions of giving birth, which naturally belonged to it, except that she brought forth without sin, without shame, without pain and without injury, just as she had conceived without sin. The curse of Eve did not come unto her, where God said: 'In pain thou shalt bring forth children,' (Genesis 3:16); otherwise it was with her in every particular as with every woman who gives birth to a child.

Grace does not interfere with nature and her work, but rather improves and promotes it..." (from Luther's First Christmas Day Sermon, in *The Complete Sermons of Martin Luther*, vol. 1. 2000, Grand Rapids: Baker Books).

From the First Sunday of Advent, 1948: When I have a spare few moments I enjoy reading the old Bulletins and Ordos that we have collected from Zion's history. The oldest Bulletin I have is #513 (compare that to the number on your Bulletin from last Sunday!), from Sunday, November 28, 1948. Fr. Runge had been at Zion 10 years by that time. Advent Vespers was prayed in German (7:00 p.m.) and English (8:15 p.m.) every Wednesday. On Sunday German Mass was at 9:00 a.m., English Mass at 11:00 a.m. Those who desired to receive Holy Communion would register on Thursday, announcing their intentions. Only those who registered could receive Holy Communion. From the section of the Bulletin entitled "Devotions" I reprint the following:

"Our schedule for the week announces seven opportunities to worship in this House of God. On Nov 29 we shall observe THE VIGIL OF THE HOLY FEAST OF ST ANDREW, APOSTLE AND MARTYR. It will be combined with the opening of the greater Detroit Lutheran Pastoral Conference, which will be held in the Parish Hall. These Matins, as usual, are open to the public. On November 30 we shall celebrate THE FEAST OF ST ANDREW, THE APOSTLE AND MARTYR, dwelling upon the services which he rendered to Christendom. Next Wednesday we shall celebrate two ADVENT VESPERES in order to prepare your heart for the Birthday of the Christchild. In the holiday rush do not neglect things spiritual. On Dec 2 we shall celebrate THE HOLY FEAST OF ST BIBIANA, THE VIRGIN MARTYR. Next Sunday THE PRECIOUS BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST will be distributed at both Services. Do not neglect these opportunities to strengthen your faith. Holy Mother Church is interested in your relationship to Our Blessed Lord, and tries to make that relationship an intimate one through Word and Sacrament."

Bibiana isn't a Saint that we commemorate any longer. Nothing certain is known of her. Tradition records that she suffered under the persecution of Apronianus, Governor of Rome in the middle of the fourth century. The traditions explain that Bibiana was faithful, withstanding multiple and forceful attempts at her corruption, and ultimately was martyred. Historically she was commemorated on December 2.

Reflecting on announcements like these in our old Bulletins, it is clear that Zion's rich liturgical heritage has quite a history. Fr. Runge was a liturgical reformer, and Fr. Evans after him. They appreciated the historic Holy Liturgy of the Church. The Liturgical Calendar we observe has ancient roots. Most weeks at Zion we offer two Masses, four Divine Offices of Matins, and at least one Divine Office of Vespers, in addition to the many special observances we enjoy. I am thankful to have received the fruits of the traditions Frs. Runge and Evans restored to Zion from the One, Holy, catholic and Apostolic Church.

The St. Michael Liturgical Conference

by Father Braden

was held on Monday, September 26th. By now that seems like a long time ago, but I wanted to extend a special thanks to all those who worked so hard on planning, set-up, execution and clean-up. Thank you! The Conference was a great success! Please enjoy the pictures of the Conference in this issue. Videos of the presentations are already available on Zion's You Tube channel. Mark your calendars now - the 2017 Conference is scheduled for Monday, September 25th.

May God bless you richly as you prepare for the Celebration of the Birth of the Promised Messiah, and as you celebrate Christmastide at Zion!



Memories From St. Michael's



Conference

HOLY MASS is celebrated every Sunday and Wednesday at 10am, and on major feasts as announced.

COMMUNICANTS are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical-Lutheran Faith. If you desire to commune, please visit with the Pastor before approaching the Altar.

THE DIVINE OFFICE is prayed in the Chapel of the Holy Incarnation in the Rectory. **MATINS:** Daily 8:45am (except when there is a morning Mass); **VESPERS:** Thursday 6:30pm.

PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION is available on Saturday from 9-10am or by appointment.

PASTORAL CONSULTATION based on the Holy Scriptures is available by appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM is for infants and adults, and may be arranged by contacting the Pastor.

COUPLES DESIRING HOLY MARRIAGE should contact the Pastor before finalizing the wedding date. Bible instruction in Holy Marriage is required. All marriages are conducted by the Pastor according to Zion's usual order.

NEW MEMBERS are received by baptism, confirmation, transfer or profession of faith. Instruction in Luther's Small Catechism and Private Absolution are required for all new members. Visit with the Pastor for further details.

THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND are visited regularly by the Pastor. Please contact the Parish Office if you know of any parishioner in need of pastoral visitation.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS Adult Choir, Altar Guild, Children's Choir, Jubilate Deo Women's Choir, St. Seraphim Prayer Guild, Society of St. Samuel (Altar Boys), Usher Club, Zion Endowment Board.

DEACONS William Gramzow, Thomas Habitz, Jr.; **TRUSTEES:** Silas Gray, Paul Snoes, Kevin Wiedelman; **PARISH EDUCATION:** Shirley Cross, Robert Kelly III; **OFFICERS OF THE VOTERS:** Thomas Habitz, Jr. (chairman), Alan Kroske (vice-chairman), Pamela Ruffin (secretary), Kevin Wiedelman (treasurer), Jessica Chavez (financial secretary).