

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP • GROW • SERVE

Altamont, Illinois



† ADVENT 3 †

DECEMBER 15, 2024

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

- Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod -

5534 E. 600th Ave., Altamont, IL 62411

zionaltamont.org

Pastor – Rev. Marcus Manley (712) 880-2452

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ADVENT 3

DECEMBER 15, 2024

Today's Worship

Order of worship: Setting Three with Holy Communion - p.184

Hymns: 344; 333, 347; 341

Ushers serving in December: Mark Suckow & B.J. Voelker

Reserve: John Wohltman

We welcome our visitors in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ! We pray that your time of worship with us today will be a blessing to you. Please introduce yourself to our members and our pastor. If you are interested in learning more about Zion, membership, or our teachings, please don't hesitate to speak with Pastor Manley or an Elder.

In Our Prayers This Week

In need of healing: Tim Bolin (back), Heather Davis (cancer), Lillian Grobengieser, Janice Heiden (lung cancer), Pastor Heimgartner, Florence Leppin (cancer), Todd Luedtke, Wanda Phillips, Marion Schmidt (lung), Bert Siebert (recovery), Stella Stone (infection), Steve Voelker, Gary Wendling, Patti Wolff (heart), Catherine Zumwalt (cancer)

Receiving skilled care: Lucille Beccue (LCC), Bernice Graumenz (LCC), Shirley Siddens (LCC), Judy Stuemke (LCC), Mildred Wolf (LCC)

Serving in the military: Cole Stuemke, Brandon Voelker

Imprisoned: Alex Beccue

For Immanuel, Altamont, and all who are in need of a pastor.

Upcoming December Birthdays & Anniversaries*

Pastor Manley (12/27), Ken & Imogene Clark* (12/28)

ALIS News/Upcoming Events:

Dec. 16 – Mon. – ALIS Board Meeting - 7PM

Dec. 19 – Thurs. – Early Dismissal @ 2:15pm

Dec. 20 – Fri. – Early Dismissal @ 2:15pm with bussing

Dec. 21 – Jan. 6 – No School Christmas/New Year's Break

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mid-week Advent service will be at Bethlehem on Wed., Dec. 18, at 7PM.

Zion Donut Sunday will be next Sunday, December 22, after divine worship.

Guest Preacher - On December 22, Rev. James May will visit to inform us about The Lutheran School of Theology in Nairobi, Kenya. LST trains Lutheran men from over 20 countries in Africa where there is a great need for Lutheran pastors (the average pastor serves 12 churches). Pastor May will give a presentation after the service.

Immanuel Christmas Cantata You're invited! The Choir at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 203 Division Street, Altamont, IL will be performing "Morning Star" a Christmas Cantata written by Lloyd Larson. Performance dates are Saturday, December 21 at 6:00 PM and Sunday, December 22 at 9:00 AM. The Cantata showcases the Christmas story as a story of hope, redemption, and fulfilled promises from God. Lots of hard work has gone into this musical event! We welcome your presence at these performances!

Weihnachtsgottesdienst - German Christmas Service at Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, 645 Poplar Street, Terre Haute, IN invites you to celebrate with them a "German Christmas Vespers Service" today, Dec. 15, at 4:00 PM. Pastor Emeritus Philip G. Meyer will be both Liturgist and Preacher. There will be singing of German Christmas hymns and carols, hearing the Christmas Gospel and Sermon in German, and afterwards enjoying Gemütlichkeit, pastries, cookies, and some authentic German Kaffee. *English translation of the liturgy and hymns, along with a synopsis of the sermon will be provided.*

49th annual Pro-Life Breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 19 from 7:00am-Noon at the Teutopolis Banquet Hall. Free will donation accepted for breakfast, which includes whole hog sausage, eggs, and a variety of home baked breads, along with juice, milk, and water. Volunteers are needed. Please text Susan at 217.663.2084 to sign up for a shift. Donations of breads, rolls, donut holes, & muffins are needed, and can be dropped off on Saturday, January 18 from 12-4pm at the Teutopolis Banquet Hall. This is the primary fundraiser for Effingham Area Right to Life. If you're unable to attend the breakfast, please consider sending a donation to PO Box 861, Effingham IL 62401. Learn more by visiting "EffinghamAreaRightToLife" on Facebook.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Christmas Eve Children's Program – Tuesday, Dec. 24, 5:30 P.M.

Christmas Day - *with Holy Communion* – Wednesday, Dec. 25, 8:00 A.M.

New Year's Eve - *with Holy Communion* – Tuesday, Dec. 31, 5:30 P.M.

Thought for the week...

Matt. 11:10 – "This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'" John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus' ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out his disciples to preach "repentance and the forgiveness of sins." We never outgrow the need for repentance – examining our lives, turning away from our sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive His forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

ATTENDANCE

12/08	38
12/11	38

OUR CURRENT GIVING

Weekly amount needed:	\$ 1,300.00
(ALIS tuition per week = \$675)	
Received 12/08	\$ 994.00
Received 12/11	\$ 220.00
Received YTD:	\$ 66,017.50
Difference in actual needed YTD:	\$ +2,317.50
Missions budget goal:	\$ 2,000.00
Received 12/08	\$ 0.00
Received 12/11	\$ 0.00
Missions received YTD:	\$ 2,264.00



The following Lectionary Summary, provided by the LCMS, serves as a guide to help understand the theme of the readings for each Sunday as well as how they fit into the particular season of the Church Year.

John the Baptizer Prepares the Way for the Lord

The voice of the Baptizer cried out in the wilderness: “*Prepare the way of the Lord . . .*” (Isa. 40:1). John called the people to be made ready for the Messiah’s coming through repentance, for “*all flesh is grass*” (Isa. 40:6). Now He asks from prison, “*Are you the one who is to come . . . ?*” (Matt. 11:2). Jesus’ works bear witness that He is. The sick are made well; the dead are raised, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. Their iniquity is pardoned; they have received from the Lord’s hand double forgiveness for all their sins. The “*stewards of the mysteries of God*” (1 Cor. 4:1) still deliver Christ’s overflowing forgiveness to the poor in spirit, comforting God’s people with the word of the Gospel which stands forever. This Gospel produces rejoicing among all those who believe.

HOLY COMMUNION: *The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.*

Because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

Bulletin Announcements E-mail zion.altamont@gmail.com or call/text Tonya at 618-780-7732. Please submit announcements by 12 P.M. on Friday.